MUTANT RENEGADE ZINE

SAVIOR OF THE DAYTON UNDERGROUND

FREE
$1.50 PPD.

THE HIGH SCHOOL

YEARS WERE THE BEST YEARS OF MY LIFE

ISSUE #9

Mutant Renegade Zine

The High School Issue

Welcome to MRZ #9. We're only one month behind schedule which is phenomenal for us. It's been fun doing this High School issue for all of us, so sit back, crank up some music and enjoy. Something new: MRZ now has a website which is updated weekly, plus it includes past issue archives, Mutant Renegade Records & Distribution, some surveys, local links and other fun things. Check it out.

Yes, once again it's opening rant time. I've been writing so much lately about such a wide variety of topics I really can't pick one to focus on for this intro speal. I've hit that age and due to the circumstances of the past year I'm trying to rediscover who I really am. I really thought I knew myself, but thanks to some people who I've meet recently and some old friends who I've become closer to, I realize that I really need to question everything right now. My eyes are finally open again and I see all the possibilities around me and everything I'd like to try and experience. I feel like I did about 5-10 years ago, and it's great.

The revelations about myself have been more hard hitting than any other time before. I have very few things I'm certain of now (and usually I'm a planner) and the unknown is exhilarating, yet frustrating. If you're going through such a period of introspective analysis, write me and we can talk / write about everything. One last note: Complacency sucks... grog

THANKS TO:

Yearbook Help: Ron & Rob Rosenbeck, Patric & Wednesday Jones, AndyAndy & Phil, Greg Reynolds, Glenn Perrine, Kent Brown, Randy Loges, Gail, Mite & Grog.

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Mutant Renegade Zine
P.O. Box 3445
Dayton, OH 45401
http://www.Mutant-Renegade.com/

MRZ #10

Computers & Technology Issue
Deadline: December 15th
Out: January 1999

Send us anything...music, zines, money, pictures, artwork, movies, money, ads, rants, articles, toys, clothing, RAM, and stuff...

ADVERTISING INFO

Size	Indie	Major
1/6 Page	$25	$50
1/3 Page	$40	$80
1/2 Page	$55	$110

Classifieds $2 / 40 words or $5 / 40 words Print plus 4 months online.
Prices include online and print ad.
Checks to: Mutant Renegade

MRZ Staff(?)

Grog: Egotistical bastard, lame rants, webmaster, reviewer, bitch, shitworker.

Mite: Opportunist, boring articles, reviewer, whiner, shitworker.

Gail: Skeptic, Punk rock diva, reviewer, writer, interviewer, psycho girl, photographer.

Johnny Death: Mr. morbid, reviewer, beer drinkin' fun guy & angel of death.

Plus these cool contributors: Other, Danielle Lake, Janet Kyrups, Timothy Kevin Perry, Hal, William "Upski" Wimsatt, dk, E.G. Smith, Mr. Rodgers.

LETTERS

REGARDING FEN'S PK ARTICLE

Fen's article compelled me to express a fear that sort of goes with opposing closed-minded groups like the PK. Of course I'm dead-set against their backward, ignorant, uninformed beliefs. What really bothers me is that they express themselves and condemn others in the name of God. It causes fear and dread of Christians.

Anyway, for those of us who are Christians or some other brand of religion-influenced person, I'd like to state for the record that Christianity does NOT equal oppression. On the contrary, it encourages love, love, and more love. I wouldn't want those who don't have a particular religious belief to let fanatics like the PK dissuade them from exploring their own spiritual side.

Real Lulu has an instrumental entitled, "Throwing God Out with the Bath Water." I wouldn't want anyone to make that mistake just because of some dirty little molecules like the PK.

Deborah

Deborah,

I think everybody's biggest fear is when one man or group starts to tell people how to think and act. Any religion should be a personal decision without anyone else telling them otherwise. I think most people who read MRZ are open-minded enough to know better than to judge religion by a few loud controlling groups instead of studying the basis of each religion and finding out how they really feel within themselves about spirituality and religion.

FINALLY SOMEONE ATTACKS ME

Grog...is that your name? Well my dear it is so unbecoming of me to issue a response to....ummm is it a zine or something you write for....oh well. I found the article? quite entertaining..esp. the huge conflict of interest that many music writers seem to have in this type of area, being the "dayton music scene". I wanted to tell you personally that i really enjoyed the essay not for it's brilliance and creativity but for it's complete lack of facts or logical arguments.

Thank you for giving all of us this great press and attention. You and the rest of these local musicians' should be proud of the time and effort spent reviewing our biography page, oops... the one sentence, that may i mention... made no reference to any band or any one person...not to mention the fact that it was on our webpage and you were the ones who chose to go there. Thanks for the laughs...it was really getting boring doing all of this recording in london press stuff.

If it is a zine or whatever you write for...send me a copy if we're in it..thanks, i would appreciate it....!

My response sans facts or logical arguments

Well, you got what you wanted, some attention. Now, what's your next move? Since I was the one who wrote the essay (as you call it) in twenty minutes and haven't played in a band for over four years it's hard to say that any musicians wasted their time reviewing your page. No, you didn't mention any one band or person just that the "Whole Dayton music scene was lifeless". As far as choosing to go to your webpage, that was due to the fact that you (or someone close to you) tacked up your bio (?) to the door at Canal Street, which made it on public display.

By the way it isn't a zine or whatever I write for, this has all been a wet dream of yours. Soon you will wake up clutching your life-sized inflatable Noel Gahlligar doll and bitch to him that your band doesn't get any respect.

FROM AN EMAIL SURVEY THAT WENT ON TOO LONG

oh yeah bye the way.. it doesn't matter if you are around the way or around the world....everyone knows it is all about cross island connect....so don't play a hate in the nine eight

In response to "Redneck Mating Rituals"-

Listen, Hippies, Look, Wake Up. You are being too hip. So you've taken your tabs of 500 microgram Orange Golden Sunshine Purple Special and you reckon you know it all, no-one can teach you anything, you got the power of lerv an'yer fat smiles an' yer Biba dresses an' yer seven-skin joints an' yer long lervly hair just gotta turn the natives on. Will you wear that smile when I start whompin' yer hippy ass? Will you hand them a flower when I steal your dopey girl friend who used to sunbathe naked on the roof and say 'fuck what the neighbours think, a bit of tit won't kill them.'?

Wake up. Stop carrying your plastic hip culture round the world. Dayton used to be a beautiful island of sleepy farms and white-washed houses. This spring it was like a carbon-copy of the main drag in any big Western City, flashy boutiques full of ugly clothes, bars full of freaks bashing bongos, long after the owner told them to stop, everyone reading your stupid magazine.

Ask the local people what they think: they's rather have fat middle-aged German tourists who spend money than a load of penniless bums who steal from them and stir up the police while trying to turn their paradise into a psyche delic-circus.

Yer the last one to be making fun of our Redneck Rituals. Yer a bunch of damn freaks. You suck and so does yer magazine.

Long live loud cars and barefoot and pregnant women,

Billy Bob Kick yer ass.

Uh, ok...

AN EMAIL I RECEIVED WHICH MADE ME RETCH, ENJOY

The scene is electronic. Europe and Asia are totally hip to the sound, ...and America is catching on rapidly. Snapperhead is a live band with a gorgeous female lead vocalist, guitars, drums and synths. Performing dance music to be completed with dancers, a DJ and light show, Snapperhead would be an impressive addition to any label.

Catchy songs and professional musicianship set Snapperhead's Synergy CD miles above the rest. With most hit groups you hear on the radio, youare lucky to get more than one strong single off their CD, but with Snapperhead's Synergy CD there are more than 5 radio worthy hits. Butdon't take our word for it, ..take a listen ...I am sure you will agree.

Spitz-Tari, the owners and producers of Snapperhead, are recording artists and composers known for their artistic ability and musicianship on their latest release of Holst's "The Planets - 2000 and Beyond" from Nine Worlds hosted by Patrick Stewart and "Dreams of the Rainforest". Spitz-Tari has created a new artistic musical genre in "SNAPPERHEAD -SYNERGY." Snapperhead is a highly marketable property, providing proper distribution and promotion are in place.

Yes, a true look at the state of music today, or should I say marketable properties.

WRITE MRZ

Send us your letters or emails. We love hearing from people, even if they hate us. We assume that anything sent to us can be used in print, so if you don't want it printed let us know.

You can direct your email to any of us:
Grog - Grog@Mutant-Renegade.com
Mite - Mite@Mutant-Renegade.com
Gail - PsychoGail@Juno.com
Johnny Death - CdCellar@Dnaco.net
or you can write us at:
MRZ - P.O. Box 3445 Dayton, OH 45401-3445

NEVER STOP "THINKING"

I had a bit of a wakeup call back in May. Last issue I realize that I wrote several things in a hurry and didn't actually "think" about what I was writing instead I wrote on the fly in an effort to hurry up and get everything completed. Many people who read this have no idea who I am or what I am really about, but can make assumptions due to what I write and how I express my somewhat confused opinions.

I used to sit and think for hours and try to think problems out or rationalize my feelings and opinions about things. Lately I have been so wrapped up in other situations that I find myself either drawing off of old opinions which might not be reflective of me or going straight off of emotion which can be dangerous.

I'd like to thank Patty for this bit of a wakeup and getting me back on track of thinking before expressing. My little world is growing again and I don't want to shut off external stimuli and opinions due to some outdated half-assed thought which I express. I also think I've become too safe and serene in my pack of old friends where our opinions are similar so none of us challenge each other or actually have a very different viewpoint as to which the other can challenge or maybe integrate into their own philosopy.

I think it is essential for growth and development to meet new people who can challenge your beliefs and make you "think" about them and see if you really do believe what you say or if you're just spouting off the same old rhetoric. I guess I have been guilty of this lack of outside influence lately by shutting myself off from others who's initial opinions turn me off, so I am not willing to further discuss any of the underlying rational. It's easy to get close to people who share your opinions by the misguided notion that since we think similar we are compatible friends. This can lead to elitism where you feel other "groups" are wrong and messed up because you and your friends all believe something different.

Have I become a closed-minded person similar to those who I speak out against? I don't think I'm totally closed-minded, but I do tend to shut off to those groups which I find offensive and even categorize them. I think what I really need to do is stop putting my foot in my mouth and attacking people who attack others.

SEND US STUFF TO REVIEW

So, maybe you're wondering what all will these dolts review. Well, here is your answer broken up into what each of us like. This way you can send it directly to the one you choose instead of trusting Grog's judgment. We all travel to different cities across the country on occasion so if you see a category that fits you and you're not in Dayton, let us know and maybe one of us will be there soon.

Grog (Grog@Mutant-Renegade.com)
Music: Punk, punk-pop, industrial, swing, thrash, ska, jazz, classical, soundtracks, sXe, hardcore, hard rock, garage, throwaway pop, goth, singer-songwriter, dance, alternative, punkabilly, electronica and straight ahead rock.
Film: Music videos & live shows, movies (humor, slasher, camp, student films), band movies and documentaries.
Restaurants: Any type serving vegetarian dishes.
Literature: Zines, comics, chapbooks, poetry, experimental, self discovery and short stories.
Web Pages: Cool Ones.
Bars: Anywhere where they don't have line dancing.
Live Shows: Almost any type if they're competent. I can get into almost any band live as long as they're good, even if I usually wouldn't like their music.
Theater: Plays, musicals, ballet or other such productions (Grog is so metropolitan).

Mite (Mite@Mutant-Renegade.com)
Music: Worldbeat, Worldethnic, Electronica, Trip-hop, Experimental, Goth, Etheral, Spoken Word, Anything Punk, Industrial, Singer-Songwriter, Folk, Jazz, New Age, Movie Soundtracks, Experimental Classical, Alternative, Dance, Garage, Percussive, Instrumental, Celtic, Blues and Bluegrass
Literature: Zines, Novels, Comics, Chapbooks, Poetry, Experimental, Short Stories, Nude Photos, Cereal Boxes and more.
Videos: Independent, Experimental, Local Cable, Artsy Fartsy, Foreign, Music Videos, Concert Videos, and Home Videos.
Food: Vegetarian restaurants and recipes.
Web Pages: Cool Ones.
Bars: Anywhere where they don't have line dancing, and maybe there if I get drunk enough first.
Live Shows: Performance Art, Worldbeat, Worldethnic, Electronica, Trip-hop, Experimental, Goth, Ethereal, Spoken Word, Anything Punk, Industrial, Singer-Songwriter, Folk, Jazz, New Age, Movie Soundtracks, Experimental Classical, Alternative, Dance, Garage, Percussive, Instrumental, Celtic.

Gail (PsychoGail@Juno.com)
Music: 80's fab music, rockabilly, ska, punkabilly, blues, punk rock, industrial, alternative country and classic type of singer songwriter folk type of trash ass music.
Films: Documentaries and Movies.
Restaurants: Any type serving vegetarian dishes.
Bathrooms: Womans only, leave the stinky men's rooms for Grog, Mite and John.
Live Shows: Any especially if Iggy, Paul Westerburg, Peter Murphy or Todd Snider are involved.

Johnny Death (CdCellar@dnaco.net)
Music: Death metal, black metal, thrash, hardcore, hard rock, classic rock, industrial or anything else heavy.
Restaurants: I'll eat anything.

I use to be a loser.

Maybe I don't look the type, but it's true. As you can see, I survived. I was one of the lucky ones—I overcame my problem —I became part of the Mutant Renegade Kidz Club. I'm am no longer a loser.

But now I've got a new problem—what if my friends are losers?

They're too smart for scare tactics. Straight talk is the only way to set them straight. The best way to keep your friends from being losers is to encourage them to be a part of the

Mutant Renegade Kidz Club

They will thank you for it in the end.

- keggy mutant

---

1. Name?
2. Age?
3. Sex?
4. Sign?
5. Why makes you think you're so special?
6. What is punk?
7. Old scene, New scene, What Scene? And why?
8. What do you want to be when you grow up?
9. What's your favorite cartoon and cartoon character?
10. What are you rebelling against?
11. Who's bad?
12. Prove to us that you aren't on dope right now.
13. Why ask why not?
14. MRZ online is...
15. Describe your most recent dream with Mite in it.
16. Grog is running at you wearing a loincloth and waving a fish in the air. What do you do! What do you do!!?

Send your answers and a photo to:

MRZ Kidz Club
c/o Mutant Renegade
P.O. Box 3445
Dayton, OH 45401

Add a $1and we will send you a secret prize and the new MRZ Chickenfish button that you can wear to prove to the world that you are no longer a loser.

DEAD BEAT CORNER

Written by: Gail

Staring: Rob "Rob-O" Wagner

Rob Wagner is the latest victim of Dead Beat Corner. Rob is the guy with pulled back long hair who provides the audience at Canal Street Tavern and various other places in the Dayton area with a dynamic mix of sounds. Rob graduated from Centerville High School in the greatest year, 1985 of course. As well as working at Canal Street Tavern, Rob works at various shows in Dayton through Sound Force. He creates sound at Fraze Pavilion and he works at Sound System Rentals. In the Summer he works up to 70 hours a week. To say the least he's in demand. So say hello to Rob at the next show you attend and always remember and never forget Rob's favorite beverage is Beck's Dark. So buy the soundguy a beer at the next show.

Rob's Senior Picture Class of '85

7 SURVIVAL RECORDS OF ROB WAGNER

The Replacements - Pleased to Meet Me (My Favorite too)
Kiss - Destroyer
AC/DC - Back in Black (Rob wore out 2 Tapes of this in H.S.)
Led Zeppelin - Physical Graffiti
The Beatles - The White Album
The Pixies - Doolittle
The Cult - Love (Another one of my survival records)

High School memory: Leaving for the last time.

What happened to that '68 Mustang you used to have in H.S.?: It's in my Dad's garage.

What attracted you to do sound at shows?: I always loved speakers.

What was the best show at Canal Street which you provided sound for?: Arlo Guthrie, because I was able to make it sound like it was Arlo right in front of you.

What was the most challenging show?: Wyatt Rice. I had to stay in the room after we exchanged words because of the feedback problem he was creating.

Wildest thing you have seen on the job: Band members screaming at each other on stage and eventually one of the members will leave the stage while the band continues to play. I've seen a few bands break up this way.

Wildest thing you've done at work: I about made a band break up by kicking out the keyboardist, be cause he started to tell me that I always give him a hard time. He ended up yelling at me and I told him to leave if he didn't like the conversation.

Bitchiest performer: Chris Williamson who is a singer / songwriter who acts one way on stage and is completely different after the audience leaves. Nothing is ever right, no matter what.

What do you do on your day off?: If I had a day off I'd disappear in the woods.

What would you do if you were invisible for a day?: I'd play tricks on my friends. I'd make them think that they were losing their minds.

Best pick up line: A woman was sitting at the bar drinking a Jack and Coke and the man sitting next to her says, "The next draft is on me".

Favorite disco song: I used to hang out at the Bus Stop.

Religion: I hate religious questions.

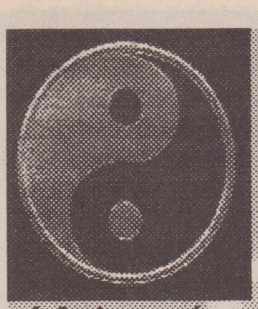
Last performer you listened to: Blood & Oranges.

Hobbies: Electronic fix-it-dude.

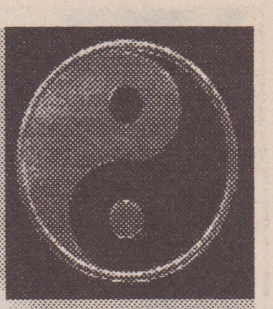
Favorite Beverage: Beck's Dark.

Things you have a rackin for: Clueless bands and people. People with Ja-Love which are good kind people.

Advice: Your job has to mean more to you than a way to pay the bills.



20 PIECES OF WORLDLY ADVICE



by OTHER

A friend of mine, who I meet recently, gave me a card for my birthday before she left for her new job in California. Inside, among other things, she had this list which she picked up from a few years of introspective analysis. I think it's full of good points and I felt like sharing. So here you go, in no particular order...

1. Don't sweat the small stuff.

2. Make everything look easy - and if it's not easy, make it look easy anyway.

3. NO whining - venting is acceptable.

4. Everyone is addicted to perfection at some level - STOP IT it'll kill you.

5. Balance is the key to life.

6. You'll find your soul-mate(s). Just remember, your soul-mate will compliment you, your qualities, your life - NOT complete it.

7. Develop your essence, it's your being, it's what makes you the person you are. The activities you do don't make the person you'd like to be.

8. Remember the "little" people.

9. Never compromise your integrity, just to keep up in the rat race.

10. You can never kill the demons inside you - the demons make you the person you are. But come to grips with these demons - or else they'll make you insane.

11. Teaming is everything - you can't do everything yourself.

12. There is a difference between management and leadership.

13. Life is more than work and play. It's about family and friends, dreams and goals.

14. One night stands are good, sex without attachments are even better...but only when condoms are used.

15. Drugs are BAD.

16. Random acts of kindness are good.

- Gifts for friends for no reason are good.

- Gifts for strangers are even better.

17. Food is yummy.

18. Playing in the rain is fun, sexy and a great release.

19. Always be open-minded.

20. NEVER hate - it's very unbecoming.

WIN A DATE WITH GROG OR FEN CONTEST RESULTS!!!

Well, we had the contest in issue number 8 and selected two winners from all zero entries we recieved. So what does this mean? Does the phrase 'dateless loser' mean anything to you? Well, you still have a chance, but now Fen is out in L.A. however Grog's still in Dayton. Would you, could you win? Of course you could.

Actually one person almost did enter. A friend of mine told me his friend (this one girl) did enter and wanted to win a date with me. Well, I never recieved anything in the mail but I ran into him at the 'belle' a few weeks later. He introduced me to her and she shocked me by saying that I was "too cute" for her, anyway I got her to give me her email address. I wrote her, but she never wrote back and I haven't seen her since. Hmmm, maybe I shouldn't have meet her face-to-face until she was already trapped into going out...

So, you forgot to enter or never heard of the contest 'til now? Well, just send in your information (name, address, phone number and a bit about yourself, especially if you know one of us), you might already be a winner. Here's the orginal information: You may have heard by now that Grog and Fen are divorced (Offical in December 97). So now here's the big chance you've been waiting years for, you can go out with Grog or Fen (or maybe both?). Just send in your information, you can even send in a picture, if it's actually of you that would be even better. Both grand prize winners chosen by Grog & Fen will be treated to dinner (Olive Garden, TGIF, or something like that) and a movie (probably at Danberry or at Noen Movies, but maybe a first run) at the zines expense. Subsequent winners, if there are any, will have to go dutch unless Grog feels very generous. There is no real deadline for this contest, unless one of them gets seriously involved again.

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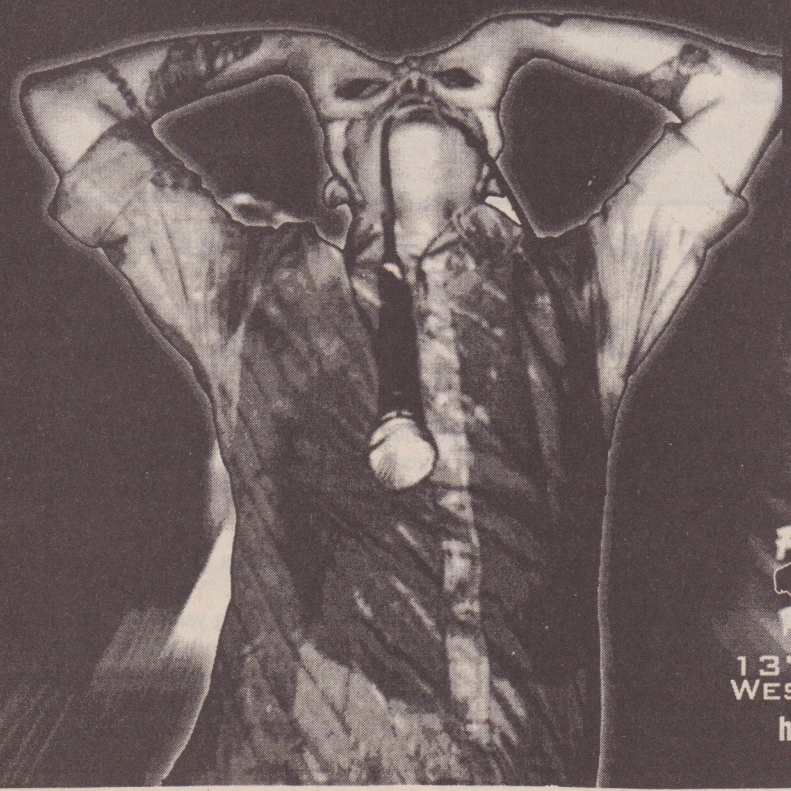

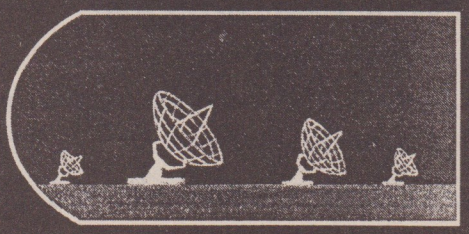

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Drinking and Life

Here's an article from "Subversion Zine #6" which I received a little while ago. I thought he did a great job talking about drinking, so I figured I'd print his article first then move onto my thoughts.

ONE MAN AND THE BOTTLE

By Mr. Rodgers

Depending on what circles you travel in, drinking is either glorified, vilified or somewhere in between. One point not up for debate is whether it's bad or not. I'll be the first to admit that not only is drinking self-destructive but destructive to those around you. The abuse of alcoholic parents is burned into the psyche of American kids like the cigarette billboard down the street. It's no stretch to say that alcohol is the cause of far more problems than drugs, not only because of its addictive quality but because of its legality and widespread social acceptance. Certain people frown when I bust out my crack pipe but nobody looks down on me when I open a frosty pint of Guinness Pub Draft.

Most people, including myself, are well aware of the problems alcohol can cause yet continue to consume it with great abandon. When I look back on my life, my biggest regrets (are regrets punk rock?) are things I've done while being shit-faced. Still, except for short periods of inactivity, I've been drinking steadily since I was 15. I cannot break myself of the release it provides me. I'm the classic weekend warrior. Go to school (now work) Monday through Friday and then try to obliterate any memory of it Friday and Saturday night. The tension and anxiety school and work can cause is so overwhelming it's easy to slip into the simple escape alcohol provides. The flagrant abuse of alcohol in college is such an obvious attempt at stress relief but is such a negative way to release tension. There are far more positive ways yet a majority of people seem to fall into the ritual of partying hard on the weekends. Basically, we all pick our drug of choice. We are not equipped with the emotional tools to deal with our problems so we all turn to something, mine, like many others, just happens to be alcohol.

Even now, a productive member of the capitalist superstructure, I see the pattern continuing. My proletarian angst (rife with master / slave confrontations, interoffice politics, pay raise scares and day-to-day drudgery) is the guiding force in my drinking and the major source of my problems / headaches. This may seem weak. Like I can't deal with my problems so I have to try and escape them. Let me tell you what. The problems of anyone's life are parallel to a brick wall. No matter how hard you try to knock them down they will always be there. I'm sure I will always have work related problems. I'm sure the isolation and paranoia of our News At Ten life will continue to keep me depressed. I'm sure the inequalities I see everyday will continue to weigh on my conscience. Like they say, if you can't beat them, join them. So I sit, wrapped in the ridiculous minutia of everyday bullshit only hoping to get away from it all.

When all is said and done, I'm glad that for only a few dollars I can partake in the false happiness alcohol provides. Sometimes reality is biting, so sharp that anything that numbs its piercing edge, if only for a brief time, is a welcome respite indeed. When I walk by a bum sleeping in his own urine with a bottle of Mad Dog at his side I can't help but feel like throwing away all this shit that modern life dumps on you and sitting down next to him for a comforting sip. Of course, tomorrow at 9 am I'll be sitting at my desk ready to put in another 8 hours.

NOW MY BIT ON DRINKING

I've been thinking about writing a rant about drinking for some time now, but I kept feeling like a hypocrite since I'm, fairly opposed to drinking, yet I still drink and on occasion get shit-faced. When I saw this article it really hit home and made me delve back into my thoughts about drinking.

It's not that I see drinking as respite from my problems. I usually have seen it as a way of expressing more of myself. I used to be very introverted, but as I have learned I'm not really shy anymore. When I first started drinking, I would drink to be more social and feel freer to express myself. Later when I really dove into the whole punk rock thing I found myself able to express myself, yet alcohol consumption always seemed to be part of the fun times, so I always associated the two. When I look back at most of my favorite memories they have something to do with drinking. However, if the same situations occurred sans alcohol, would they have been as much fun? I think they would have, provided everybody else is able to loosen up without drinking away their inhibitions.

I seem to go through phases where I realize how much a waste of time, energy and money drinking is but I always slip back into drinking at a show or a party. It's not just because everybody else is doing it, it just feels like the thing to do at the moment. However, when I drink and then go home early the rest of my night is shot. I can't concentrate and my creative abilities are shit. At my last job the boss would take us out to lunch and buy us beers. When I went back to work I was worthless and then I felt like just lying around the house when I got home. I hate inactivity and just laying around. Yes, I know I need to rest and relax at times, but not because I am forced to due to drinking.

So, what is my answer to all this? I would stop drinking altogether if I didn't believe that it gives me a certain crucial release which I need to survive. It's not like I'm getting smashed everynight, or weekend for that matter. But I enjoy losing all control once a month or so, just to mix things up and get in touch with another part of my psyche. Then there are the other times where I have a beer (or wine) or two just to help me relax at a show or with friends. (Anyone who knows me knows I need to relax.) As for problems, I actually enjoy running into the brick wall until I find a way to climb over, ready to face another one. Complacency breeds apathy.

IT'S

Strange and Exotic Dayton

ZEDS TV DINNER THEATER IS A FAIRLY NEW ATTRACTION IN THE FINE CITY OF DAYTON, OHIO. STARTED BY TWO ENERGETIC THIRTY-SOMETHING'S, YVETTE 'ZAK' MITCHELL AND NANCY 'ED' STEWART, THIS PLACE IS DESTINED TO BE ONE OF THE MOST UNIQUE ENTERTAINMENT VENUES THAT HAS HIT THIS FAIR CITY IN QUITE SOME TIME. MUTANT RENEGADE WAS ABLE TO TALK TO THE ENTERPRISING PAIR ON A WINDY THURSDAY AFTERNOON AS THEY WERE PREPARING FOR THAT NIGHTS 'GREEN ACRES - ARNOLD THE SINGING PIG' PROGRAM.

MRZ - HOW DID YOU GET THE NAMES ZAK AND ED ?

YZM - WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER SINCE WE WERE KIDS. WE WERE BOTH TOMBOYS BIG TIME. SO WE GAVE OURSELVES BOY NAMES AND THEY STAYED WITH US EVER SINCE.

MRZ - TELL US HOW THE IDEA FOR ZEDS CAME ABOUT?

'ED' AND 'ZAK' THE ZANY PAIR AS THEY REHEARSE FOR THE EVENINGS ENTERTAINMENT AT 'ZEDS T.V. DINNER THEATER.

YZM - WE LOVED GOING TO THE NEON MOVIES AND SEEING ROCKY HORROR ON SATURDAY NIGHTS.

NES - WE ALSO LOVED THE OLD CHEESY SITCOMS LIKE STAR TREK, GREEN ACRES, THREE'S COMPANY. ONE DAY WE CAME UP WITH THIS IDEA THAT IT WOULD BE KIND OF NEAT TO DO THESE SHOWS IN FRONT OF AN AUDIENCE LIKE THEY DO WITH ROCKY HORROR.

YZM - THE MORE WE THOUGHT ABOUT IT, THE MORE WE REALIZED THAT IT WAS BASICALLY LIKE DINNER THEATER WITHOUT THE DINNER. THEN IT HIT US. WE'D SERVE FOOD AND CALL IT TV DINNER THEATER.

NES - YOU SEE DINNER THEATERS DON'T SPEAK TO OUR GENERATION. EXCUSE ME IF I SAY IT, GENERATION XER'S COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT A BUNCH OF COWBOY JOCKS SINGING ABOUT OKLAHOMA! THEY WOULD RATHER HEAR ABOUT GILIGANS MISADVENTURES, THUS ZEDS TV DINNER THEATER.

MRZ - WHO'S ZED?

NES - ZED IS A COMBINATION OF OUR NAMES. KIND OF LIKE A BIG TOMBOY BROTHER.

YZM - NO, ACTUALLY ZED'S THE FREAKY BIKER COP FROM (THE MOVIE) PULP FICTION. HE'S SUCH A BIZARRE CHARACTER, WHO TO US KIND OF PERSONIFIES THE WHOLE FEELING OF OUR DINNER THEATER.

(LAUGHTER)

MRZ - WHAT SORT OF PROGRAMS DO YOU HAVE? WHAT ARE SOME OF THE TV SHOWS YOU DO?

YZM - WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON WHAT WE CALL "THE HORNY SPOCK" EPISODE OF THE ORIGINAL STAR TREK, WHICH WE HOPE TO BE DOING NEXT MONTH.

NES - YOU KNOW THE ONE WHERE SPOCK HAS TO RETURN TO HIS HOME PLANET SO HE CAN RELIEVE HIMSELF OF VULCAN BLUE BALL. HE ENDS UP HAVING TO FIGHT KIRK BEFORE HE CAN GET IT ON WITH THE VULCANETTE.

YZM - IT HAS ONE OF THE GREATEST FIGHT SCENES IN TELEVISION HISTORY. DA-DA-DA-DA DN DA-DA-DA.

MRZ - WHAT OTHER SHOWS DO YOU PLAN TO BE DOING?

NES - THE COURTSHIP OF EDDIES FATHER, GILLIGANS ISLAND, FANTASY ISLAND, ALL IN THE FAMILY, THREE'S COMPANY... THE LIST GOES ON.

YZM - AND SATURDAY NIGHT IS MONSTER AND A MOVIE NIGHT.

MRZ - WHAT EXACTLY IS THAT?

YZM - WE RE-ENACT A MOVIE ON SATURDAY NIGHTS, EDITED OF COURSE. THIS SATURDAY WE'RE DOING DELIVERANCE. YOU SHOULD BOTH COME. GROG KIND OF LOOKS LIKE NED BEATTY. COME ON GROG SAY SUEY! SUEY!

(LAUGHTER AND NERVOUS LOOK FROM GROG)

MRZ - SOUNDS LIKE AN EXCITING TIME. WHAT IS THE MONSTER PART?

NES - THIS WAS ACTUALLY AN IDEA FROM DEREK, A FRIEND OF OURS. WE BASICALLY GET TWO PEOPLE FROM THE AUDIENCE, STRAP THEIR ARMS TO THEIR SIDES AND MAKE ONE WEAR A GODZILLA MASK AND THE OTHER WEAR A KING KONG MASK. WE THEN SPIN THEM AROUND AND THE FIRST ONE TO KNOCK THE OTHER ONE OFF THE STAGE IS KING OF THE MONSTERS FOR THE EVENING. WHICH BASICALLY MEANS THEY GET FREE FOOD FOR THE SHOW.

MRZ - ANY EXCITING BOUTS?

N ES - ONCE A KING KONG GUY PUKED AND PASSED OUT IN HIS COSTUME, WHICH REALLY SUCKED BECAUSE, YOU KNOW, HAVE YOU EVER TRIED TO GET VOMIT OUT OF SYNTHETIC GORILLA HAIR?

MRZ - WELL, ACTUALLY NO, I HAVEN'T.

NES - LET ME TELL YOU, IT'S NO DAMN TREAT.

MRZ - ANY OTHER TREATS IN STORE?

YZM - ONCE A MONTH WE TURN A REGULAR TELEVISION SHOW INTO A MUSICAL. THIS MONTH IT'S GREEN ACRES. I'M NOT GOING TO TELL YOU WHAT EPISODE, BUT IT FEATURES ARNOLD THE SINGING PIG.

NES - WE ALSO HAVE LOCAL BANDS PLAY HERE THROUGHOUT THE WEEK WHEN WE AREN'T DOING OUR SHOW. AND EVEN SOMETIMES AFTER THE SHOW. TONIGHT THE DUDE GUYS WILL BE PLAYING.

MRZ - WHAT KIND OF JUNK FOOD CAN ONE EXPECT?

YZM - TV DINNERS, TWINKIES, HOHOS...AN ASSORTED AMOUNT OF JUNK FOOD.

NES - FRIED CHICKEN, MEAT LOAF OR SALISBURY STEAK, AND LOTS OF GREASE. MMMM, MMM GOOD.

YZM - IT'S AMAZING HOW MANY KIDS TODAY DON'T KNOW WHAT A REAL TV DINNER IS. FORGET THE WEIGHT WATCHERS LASAGNA SHIT. I TAKE THE GOOD OL' BANQUET SALISBURY STEAK, VEGETABLE MEDLEY AND TUFF TITTY BURNT BROWNIE OVER THAT CRAP ANY DAY.

MRZ - THANKS FOR YOUR TIME GUYS. LET'S END THIS INTERVIEW BY TELLING WHAT YOUR HOURS ARE.

YZM - WE ARE OPEN THURSDAYS THROUGH SATURDAYS, WITH SOME MUSIC SHOWS DURING THE WEEK. DOORS OPEN AT 7:00PM, SHOWS START AT 8:00 P.M. IT A GOOD CLEAN TIME SO BRING YOUR MOM.

WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON WHAT WE CALL 'THE HORNY SPOCK' EPISODE OF THE ORIGINAL STAR TREK, YOU KNOW THE ONE WHERE SPOCK HAS TO RETURN TO HIS HOME PLANET SO HE CAN RELIEVE HIMSELF OF VULCAN BLUE BALL.

- YZM & NES

Ani Difranco: Righteous Babe

Ani DiFranco

Righteous Babe Records

I first heard of Ani Difranco back in 1993 when I ran across her album Puddle Dive while working as a DJ at a local public radio station. I was immediately blown away. She attacked the guitar with such a delicate percusivness. The lyrics were delivered with the same masterful vigor. And the words are empowering. Their strength burned into my mind. It is music that can best be described as folk punk, but it□s much more.

I had the chance to see her this past spring in Cincinnati. I was trying to get an interview with her, but do to a hectic schedule I was unable. So instead of this being an interview with Ani Difranco (which I will still try to get) this is going to be a bland review of her show.

If you have never heard of Ani Difranco get your head out of your ass. Ani tours almost constantly, has her own record label, Righteous Babe, and has become a huge success despite receiving hardly any air play on the radio. She has also refused to sign to any major recording label. Look up her name on the Internet and you will see that in some circles she has obtained goddess status.

Anyway, here is my brief synopsis of the concert. Found a place to park. Handed out zines. Lots of females. Opening band really sucked. Ani came on stage. Everybody took lots of pictures. (She allows cameras at her shows). She mesmerized the crowd with a presence like no other. A lot of sweaty people walked away, knowing they have just seen one of the best shows of their lives.

Strange Brew Coffee House

Jeff Dahmer was just another meat eater.

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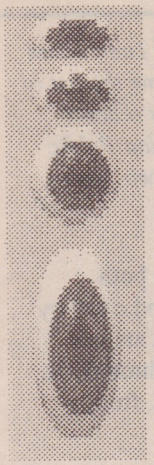
AN INTERVIEW WITH E.Y.E. (EXPRESS YOURSELF EXCELLENTLY)

BY GAIL

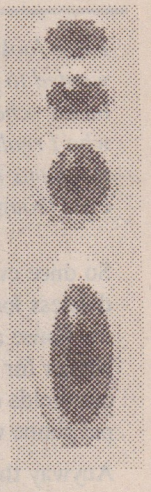


(Photo by: Gail)

E.Y.E. is a one man extravaganza / performance artist. He plays on top of pre-recorded drums, rhythm guitar and backup vocals. E.Y.E.'s name at birth was Steve Sharp and he has been performing since 1980. E.Y.E. provides his audience with eye-catching rock-n-roll stances and creatively stimulating remakes of rock-n-roll classics such as "Head Like A Hole" and "Spicoli's Theme". E.Y.E. also adds in a few of his own tunes to the set.

E.Y.E. started playing music at age 10 when he learned to play the Ukulele (spell it correctly for me Grog dammit!). By the time he was 12, he learned to play the drums and the guitar. E.Y.E. has been playing ever since. You can catch E.Y.E. at Canal Street Tavern, the Trolley Stop or Martina's in Beavercreek. I highly recommend seeing E.Y.E. because he is one of the most creative artists to perform in Dayton in quite a while and he claims his E.Y.E. t-shirts are aphrodisiacs.

(Photo by: Gail)



Why E.Y.E.?: I am E.Y.E., Express Yourself Excellently.

What instruments do you play?: Guitar, drums (drums are my life), bass playing is dreamed up out of nowhere and stolen from Lonesome Dave, and I play keyboards.

What's your favorite musical stance?: I really want to swing the guitar around my neck. I'm still working on that. I'm trying to be an acrobat on the guitar. I'm known for beating the guitar because I beat the drums for 30 years.

Where did you get your ideas for pre-recorded music in your act?: Dave and I got together in 1980. He wanted to play the soundman and I played instruments. Since Dave left, I had to turn myself into the engineer, soundman, musician and songwriter.

Why do you refer to "we" in your performances?: When you are only one person on stage: It's actually just me. I always say we because Dave and I had been playing together since 1992. Our last gig was in Piqua in 1997. I'm just used to saying "we".

Originals vs. Covers: I try to do more originals. Some of the covers I do are "Head Like A Hole", "Disneyland", "Everything's Zen", "Nothing Else Matters" and "Tubthumping". I like to do both. I fell off the table at C.S.T. doing "Strokin". I don't do "Freebird".

Favorite Quote.: I'll get scared when they start digging through my trashcans.

Musical inspirations: Berlin because of Terri Nunn's hair. Mix the Beach Boys with the Who and you have E.Y.E.

Musical goals: I'm working on the fourth E.Y.E. album. (The previous three albums are entitled Let's Get It On Up, Bandit, and True Positions.) I might even throw some country music on it. I'd like to be rich, but I don't think I'll ever be rich.

Musical hero: Terri Nunn of Berlin.

Hairstyle: Like Terri, E on one side, Y in the back, and the other E dyed on the other side of my hair, or one side dyed white or the other dyed black. (Note: Yes, he's had all these hair styles)

Favorite disco song: The Bee Gee's singing "Jive Talking", "Saturday Night Fever", "Staying Alive" and "You Should Be Dancing".

High School: I attended Kiser Slautern in Germany, I'm a military brat.

High school memory: My first love, Vanna Fushs. She wrote me a dear John letter, other than that she was the best.

Hobbies: Drawing, I like to paint. I'm a water color/acrylic artist. I like Bob Ross. I like to travel too. I've been to Germany, England, Holland.

Religion: Catholic.

Thoughts on abortion: That's up to the person's involved. If they want to have the baby, they have the baby. Nobody should bring a child into this world if they don't want to. I can't discriminate against another person. It should be free. That's what America is all about.

Special abilities: I can do something that I thought all guys could do, but I found out only a few select few could. I'll let you use your imagination.

Pee Wee Herman or Emo Phillips?: Emo Phillips.

Pastel, neon or traditional?: Fluorescent.

Nicknames: Spiderman Steve, Two Face, Many Faces and the Flying Dutchman.

Favorite hair product: Clairol Frost & Glow.

If you were a cartoon character, who would you be?: Johnny Quest.

Advice: Express Yourself Excellently. Treat yourself like gold.

10 Survival Records of E.Y.E.

Led Zeppelin - Zoso	Rolling Stones - Tattoo You
Metallica - Metallica	Beatles - White Album
Beach Boys - Pet Sounds	Smashing Pumpkins - M. C. and the Infinite Sadness
Who - The Who by Numbers	NIN - Pretty Hate Machine
Berlin - Berlin 3	Marilyn Manson - Anti-Christ Superstar

E.Y.E.'s shoes, Gail's got a thing for shoes.

(Photo by: Gail)

GROG & GAILS PILGRIMAGE TO MECCA

a.k.a. The Trip to Chicago to See the Warped Tour

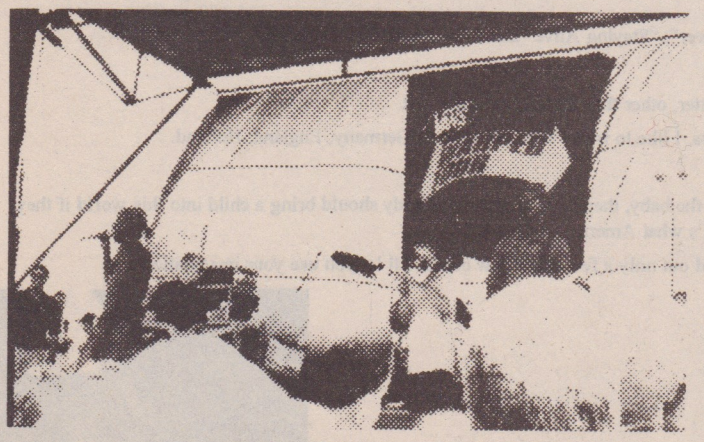
I was looking through a paper which I picked up in Fort Wayne a while back and noticed it had info on the Warped Tour. I had wanted to go last year, but I missed the dates because my mind was out of wack (like it still isn't). Anyway when I saw the list of bands scheduled I knew I just had to go to this show and even do some interviews. I hate doing interviews unless it's a band who I really like and I just want to find out more about the people in the band. So, luckily I knew that Nasty Little Man Public Relations handled the tour and contacted Thanh Thanh. She was cool enough to get me the information and secure two passes even though the show was about a week away.

So once everything was secured I told Gail we were heading up to Chicago and seeing the tour. (Since Gail and I are both dateless losers, we hang out together quite a bit.) Gail bought a camera (she was supposed to be our photographer) and came by my house after her class. We left for Chicago at about ten for the five hour pilgrimage to the holy land. After a quick stop at Meijer for road supplies (chips, cola, apples, gum and other assorted crap) we started on that hellish five hour drive through the cornfields of Indiana. Gail called Todd at about midnight to make sure he'd let us into his apartment once we arrived, from a payphone which made his voice sound like that of a robot. It was pretty cool and kinda spooky.

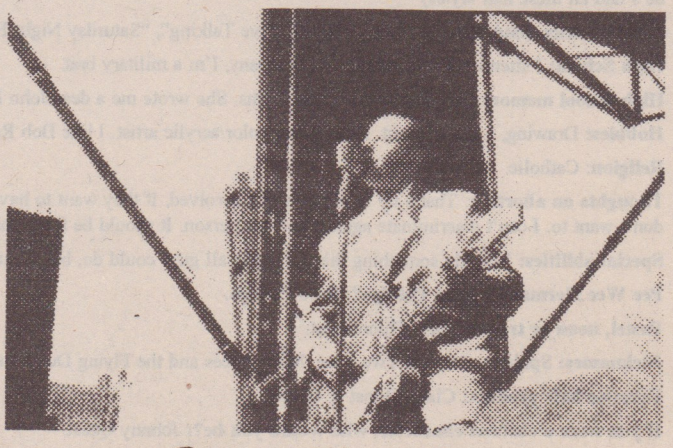
Anyway thanks to the time change and Grog's driving ability (what????), we made it up there before two so that we could annoy our gracious host. Todd had to rush out in the morning so he actually left Grog and Gail alone in his apartment. We decided since we were staying until Saturday to not mess anything up. Then we headed out to breakfast at the Waffle House and journeyed off in search of the show and to write up our interview questions while we drove.

We were told to be there no later than ten, so we ended up parking exactly at ten. Then we walked around trying to find a security guard who actually knew where the media area was. By ten thirty we found the place and were told that we were early. However, Keri Lee decided to be cool and give us our crap right then. Once we received a schedule we noticed that we had over a hour until the first band played.

So I slapped on my pass and we journeyed off on the blacktop in the sweltering heat. The section between the two main stages and two secondary stages had a bunch tents from the bands and labels. So, we looked through the booths and grabbed all the free shit we could find. Since we were both short on cash, we decided to forgo eating and try to sneak some food from the back area, since we did have passes. Our attempt to scam food almost worked until this one guy asked for our meal tickets. Then we began a journey to try and secure meal tickets. We worked our way through six people until we came to the right person who told us that journalist just aren't supplied with food. (Wow, she called us journalist.) By then it was time for the Specials to come on so we headed off to the main stage. I started to whine to Gail to start taking pictures. So, while we were packed in the crowd Gail tried to figure out her new camera. It was a really nice one compared to the usual 35 mm we're all used to. Then we moved our way up front to get some pictures. We finally made it to about 40 feet from the stage when Gail tried to take some pics. Eventually she noticed that the lens wasn't on correctly, and with that fixed she snapped a few.



The Specials



Reverend Horon Heat

We watched a few other bands and watched the crowd quite a bit. We came up with nicknames for people and realized that other than the bands and the support staff we were two of the oldest people there. From this point forward we started the long process of Grog doing interviews, Gail running off to snap pictures of bands (which was better once we realized that photographers were aloud right in front of the stage where the security guards were), watching bands, wandering around the crowd, getting sunburned (Grog did at least, Gail was smart and used sun block), meeting fellow zinesters and getting water from the band area.

I did a total of seven interviews and missed a few more because mine went on too long. (Gee, Grog talked to much, what a surprise). My favorite interviews were Full on the Mouth (since I learned they were from Flint, another home of mine) and the Specials since the guitarist was so interesting and intelligent. The worst two were with Matt Freeman (the bass player from Rancid) and Bill Stevenson (the drummer from All). Gail thought the Rancid guy was going to leap out of his seat and strangle me during the questions because he was getting so annoyed. The drummer from All (he used to be in Black Flag) ate during the interview and seemed really pissed off and annoyed by my questions. All the other bands loved the questions and seemed to have a lot of fun. Maybe trying so hard to be not cool, but still cool does something to your sense of humor. Oh well, I still like the bands and I can't judge all the members from just one of them and maybe they were just having a bad day (or I'm just an asshole). I'll be posting the interviews next month so you can be the judge if I really am that much of an asshole.

Grog interviews Full on the Mouth

Two of the Unwritten Law boys

After the show we were hot, sweaty and stinky. So we hooked up with Todd and made him sit in a car with us and find us a good place to eat. Once fed we retired to Todd's humble abode and crashed. The next morning Todd again went to work so Gail and I decided to hit downtown and look around. We went to this place called "the Melrose" to get breakfast. I decided to order the "hobo". About five minutes later the door opened behind my seat and a bag lady walked in. She stood right behind me (facing Gail and the rest of the restaurant) and yelled "Get out of my house!!", "You're all in my house!!!", "You are going to die, you deserve to DIE, you're already dead!!!!!". Gail couldn't stop laughing, but she told me not to turn around. Finally the lady left and things calmed down. About a minute later the waitress brought out my "hobo". I wonder if they pay that lady to do that every time someone orders a hobo?

Once we were finally fed we walked down the street and hit some shops. I finally found a pair of "boa" chucks in my size, which I've been wanting for months. We also ventured off the Michigan Avenue and looked in all the expensive stores (Gail is such an uptown girl) when we ran into street clowns. I tried to not make eye contact and told Gail to do the same, but I noticed she was gone and when I turned around she was staring at them and waving. So they did some things and had Gail help out their act. Finally we left and even gave them a few bucks, at least they weren't mimes. Outside of this furniture store (yes Grog likes furniture, so does Gail) we were accosted by three young guys selling M&M's and getting totally into our faces. I really couldn't understand what they were saying, but we blew them off and watched them attack the tourists. I made Gail go to a pizza place (Pizzeria Duo) which was really great. Then we headed off for the North Shore and did some more looking. Gail bought some smelly stuff (incense, oils, and the like) from some store in the college area. Then we hooked up with Todd again.

I'd have to say this is one of the few trips out of town I've taken where I haven't drank any alcohol, Gail didn't drink either. It proved the point in my Drinking article where I said you can have just as good a time without drinking, but since drinks are usually associated with the fun activity you tend to drink anyway. No Grog hasn't gone sXe (I'm pretty close though) but sometimes you just have to think everything through.

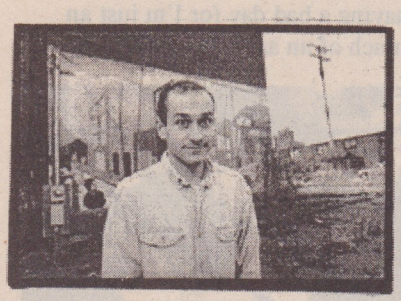
Well, I'm looking forward to my next adventure with Gail, even though she chopped off all her dreads.

Rancid

The Graffitti Wall

Why I Quit School

by William "Upski" Wimsatt



When I was 14, my hero was a rapper named KRS-One who dropped out of eighth grade and educated himself by reading and apprenticing in the music business. I informed by parents that I intended to do the same, and they told me it was illegal. Having spent all my life in schools where knowledge is measured out in tiny spoonfuls, I wasn't resourceful enough to figure out they were wrong. And, in retrospect, I admit I was a little scared.

So I stayed in high school and then headed off to Oberlin College, but my desire to pursue other avenues of education persisted. Then one summer day three years ago, I visited Reading Frenzy, a little bookstore in Portland, Oregon, and asked the owner what her favorite books were. That one! she said without hesitation, pointing to *The Teenage Liberation Handbook: how to Quit School and Get a Real Life and Education* by Grace Llewellyn. I'm not a teenager, was my first thought, and I already have a real life, thanks anyway. But I ended up buying the book and was struck by Llewellyn's argument that learning happens naturally and school mostly just gets in the way.

When I returned to Oberlin that fall, I realized that there were no courses covering the things I most wanted to learn. No sex classes. No friendship classes. No classes on how to build an organization, raise money, navigate a bureaucracy, create a database, buy a house, love a child, spot a scam, ask the right questions, talk someone out of suicide, or figure out what's important. Those are the things that enhance or mess up people's lives, not whether they know economic theory or can analyze literature.

So I quit college and enrolled as a student at the University of Planet Earth, the world's oldest and largest educational institution. It has billions of professors, ten of millions of books, and unlimited course offerings. Tuition is free, and everybody designs his or her own major.

Live in a different place every year. Attend a different place of worship every week. Seek out hundreds of mentors to help me find answers to my thousands of questions. Spend the rest of the time in the library and on the Internet. Create list, make charts, and undertake the most ambitious projects I can think of. Create my own personal bible, almanac, and address book. Live in the poorest neighborhoods to learn how to get along in the world and save money, so I can travel to a different continent each year.

> Self-education is mainly about solving problems, so I keep looking for creative ways to learn what I want to know.

That will be my freshman survey course. Then I will have a better idea of what to pursue as a sophomore.

Of course, my course of studies keeps changing as new opportunities arise. I had to scale back on some of my goals because I need to make a living. My parents wouldn't give me the money they would have spent on college to help me educate myself. But self-education is mainly about solving problems, so I keep looking or creative ways to learn what I want to know.

My only regret is that I didn't start earlier. My friend Anna Fritz read *The Teenage Liberation Handbook* and quit Milwaukee High School of the arts when she was 15. Instead of taking music classes, she played professionally and studied privately with a renowned cello teacher at the University of Wisconsin. Instead of taking science, she apprenticed with a botanist at a museum greenhouse. Instead of taking social studies, she worked as an organizer for Peace Action Milwaukee and represented the organization at national meetings in Washington, D.C.

Anna and I aren't alone. We're part of a self-schooling movement that Includes people of all ages who have taken their education into their own hands.

My friend John Payne was a barber in Detroit. He had faked his way through high school without ever learning how to read, but he supplemented his education by listening carefully to the men whose hair he cut. One of them was a crackhead named Willie who knew how to fix up abandoned houses. John asked Willie to teach him the trade, and now John owns 25 houses and two barbershops. And he has also taught himself how to read.

If it feels as if your education stopped after you left college, then a self-schooling program might rekindle the fires of learning in your soul. And if you're thinking about going back to school for an advanced degree in something-or-other, let me save you $40,000 or so. Here are strategies that I've found useful in pursuing an education on my own.

Give yourself permission to have fun while you're learning whatever you damn well please.

1. Recognize that you're self-motivated. But I'm not self-motivated, you say. Oh, really? Then why are you reading this zine? For fun? Exactly.

2. Enjoy yourself. Give yourself permission to have fun while you're learning whatever you damn well please -- from sex to the stock market, fixing your car to fighting urban blight --in whatever way you please. The point of self-education is to abandon the feelings of inadequacy you picked up in school.

3. Team up with others. Self-education doesn't mean learning by yourself. The most important thing is to find teachers who will push you to learn what your need. A book group might be a great place to start, but if it gets too comfortably chatty, then challenge the group to broaden it's horizons.

4. Scare away your shyness. I was a painfully shy child. In sixth grade, I convinced my parents to let me transfer to a tough Chicago public school, which at the time seemed terrifying to me. I'm not shy anymore.

5. Save all your ideas. Don't assume that you will always remember all the best ones. I carry a notebook with me and jot down every idea I get, putting a star next to the ones I really want to pursue.

6. Act of what your learn. If you don't change your life in some way every time you learn something, then what did you really learn? And you need to set up routines that keep offering you new challenges. One of my goals is to play a different sport each day of the week with members of a different ethnic group: Martial arts with East Asians. Capoeira with Brazilians. Soccer with Latino immigrants. Basketball with African Americans in the ghetto. Tennis with WASPs in the suburbs.

7. Attend conferences. I love conferences. They're a great way to get inspired, immerse yourself in new ideas, and meet amazing people nobody has heard of yet. Last year I went to seven conferences in seven months: The Prairie Festival in Kansas, An African American youth leadership summit at Vassar, the Saguaro Seminar on civic engagement at Harvard, a hilanthropy conference in Seattle, a community organizing retreat in Colorado, the Media and Democracy Congress in New York City, and the Not Back to School Camp in Oregon. All seven cost me less than $2,200, including travel and meals. (I hitchhike, ride Greyhound buses, stay with friends, and sometimes get my expenses paid for speaking at the conference.)

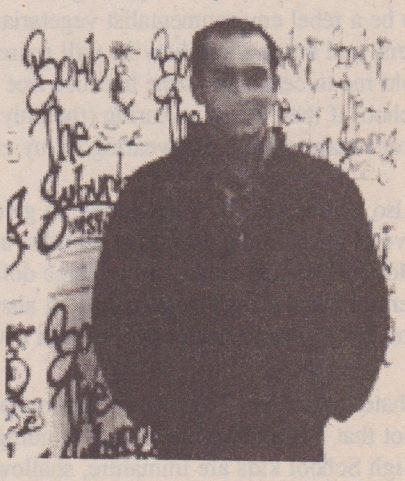
8. Feed and water your mentors. Most people --even famous people-- feel underappreciated. If you admire someone for a specific reason, tell them. You'll be surprised to learn how few people do. Tell your mentors specifically what you want to learn from them, at their convenience. I have more that three dozen mentors on my A list, many of whom I've drafted at conferences.

9. Don't quit school if you like it. But remember good grades aren't the most important thing you'll take away from college. Take time to make connections with your classmates, the activist leaders and CEO's of tomorrow.

10. Recognize that friendship is learning. This is especially true when you're building friendships with people you find intimidating or awkward to deal with: your parents and siblings, cold-faced men in suits, brassy women, angry teenagers, nerdy cousins, bosses, new agers, religious fundamentalists, self-righteous activist, folks who have done time, foreigners, poor people, rich people, the depressed, the egotistical. Learning to forge ties with all kinds of people and bring out the best in each other is the core of any self-education.

11. Be prepared to be scared. Learning sound so nice and wholesome doesn't it? Tell that to Adam and Eve. Learning is scary and often risky because the more you learn, the more you'll feel compelled to rearrange your basic assumptions about everything. And that brings chaos as well as excitement into your life.

12. Don't be afraid to ask for help. I'm starting a self-schooling foundation that will make it possible for more young people, especially poor kids, to educate themselves outside of school. I'm looking for highly successful dropouts as well as enthusiastic volunteers and donors with an interest in self-education. Please send names and contact info to me at: Coorcircle@aol.com or William "Upski" Wimsatt, 5484 S. Everett Ave, Chicago, IL 60615.



William "Upski" Wimsatt is the author of Bomb the Suburbs, a collections of essays about America's unfounded fears of the inner city. To order a copy, send seven dollars to the Subway and Elevated Press Co., PO Box 377653, Chicago, IL 60637.

HIGH SCHOOL STORY

by Danielle Lake

I am currently a sophomore (I'll be a Junior by the time this comes out) at Hilliard Darby High School in Hillard, Ohio (the snobby yuppie WHASP [wealthy hetero Anglo-Saxon Protestant] suburban capital of the world). I just moved here in January of 1998, from Lynhurst, where I went to Brush High School (you know, where the principal got arrested for videotaping cheerleaders undressing in the bathroom). And if it weren't for my homophobic, bible-totin', patriarchal, self-righteous father, I would've moved back to Lyndhurst a long time ago. Don't get me wrong Brush is a hell-hole filled to the brim with Cleveland Indians-worshippin' macho freaks in huge pants and fascist teachers who care more about suspending girls with spaghetti-strap shirts than proficiency tests. But, other than that the people in the South Euclid-Lyndhurst school district are much more down-to-earth than those in Hillard.

Brush celebrated it's 70th birthday last year. Darby has not had its 1st birthday yet. Since this school is so new, all the students have this repulsive school spirit that really makes me nauseous. There is at least one computer, a television, a VCR and a flag in every classroom. They do the announcements on TV, and the only time you ever see a racial minority on announcements is on a day that important people are visiting the school. I keep hearing about how multicultural Hilliard is. I laughed my ass off when my Spanish teacher said that (she was the first one, I heard). Maybe Hilliard is diverse compared to what it was, like, 10 years ago. But in real life Hilliard is about as diverse as the National Alliance. And kids wear letter jackets when they're not even on sports teams. The kids who are on sports teams often wear their jackets to school, even when there are no games that day. It's rather pathetic. They are fond of decorating their bookbags with the names of their favorite bands (which are invariably Korn, Tool, Pantara, Marilyn Manson, and, of course, Insane Clown Posse). The "punks" of Hilliard have never heard a Sex Pistols song and they don't listen to anything that's more than five years old (I know this because I listen to their petty conversations in study hall sometimes. I think I'll tape them one day). Besides being ignorant, patriotic, jesus-obsessed snobs, the kids of Hilliard are also extremely intolerant. The lunch ladies look at me like I'm crazy when I say I don't want any meat of cheese on my sub sandwich. People go crazy when I wear shorts or a tank top (OH MY GAWD! THAT GIRL DOESN'T SHAVE! EWWWWW THAT'S SO GROSS!). I could go on about the shortcomings (in my opinion anyway) of the students of my new school, but Grog probably has other High School stories, so I'll try not to take up too much space.

So let me tell you about my teachers. Surprisingly, the majority of them have been decent people. Like my Ninth grade history teacher, who I think is the coolest, smartest guy ever born. He was tough, but I learned more in his class than all my other classes, before and since, put together. But there have been disappointing teachers too. My former AP US History teacher used to be a rebel environmentalist vegetarian, etc., but now he preaches to his students about stocks and bonds, uses disposable diapers, and brags about how he will retire with at least one million from his stocks. And my chemistry teacher, a former hippie, told me to censor my zine because free speech doesn't apply to High School, so I won't be allowed to distribute my zine at school if there's any swearing (the only swearing in the one he saw was "bullshit" anyway, and it only occurred once). I usually don't make a habit of swearing in my zine, and there's never been more than two or three words, so I don't see the big problem.

Also, Darby tries to force people to give them money by holding events during school that you have to pay for (there have been five of them in the past three months: a pep rally, a volleyball game between teachers and students, two plays and a talent show). Most of the cost either two or three dollars, which isn't much money, but anytime you charge money for something, you exclude certain people from participating. It also takes away from learning (as if my teachers ever teach anything worth learning anyway) and forces people who can't, or don't want to participate, to sit in a classroom for two hours and do nothing.

I hate my school, I loathe the vast majority of the people that go there, and I'm counting down the nanoseconds 'til graduation. Not that I don't like learning (I'm going to college), it's just that I find the whole High School mentality to be so annoying. Most High School kids are immature, shallow, selfish, apathetic clones who only care about sex, drugs and being accepted by their idiotic peers (the "cool" kids).

HIGH SCHOOL ZINES ARE DANGEROUS

Kendall, Florida - Nine students from Killian High School spent a night in jail after they distributed about 200 copies of a zine called "First Amendment". It included vulgarities, sexually explicit cartoons and a cover drawing of their principal being shot through the head with a dart. Officials charged the five girls and four boys with illegal leafleting and committing a hate crime. The ACLU says the students intended the zine as satire.

AN OUTLINE TO THE APEX OF RIGHTS OF PASSAGE

by Janet Kyrups

It was one of those rites of passage. A Bah Mitzvah of sorts. But this was bigger, much bigger than shaving for the first time or getting your period. This was the chance for all young high school men to lose their virginity and a chance for all young high school women to dress up, feel like adults, look pretty. Everyone felt the driving need to go through this rite of passage, to not be left out, to be a part of the group. Either way, you got to take a day off of school.

But like every rite of passage, the high school prom is probably more traumatic than fun, because no matter what, you feel like you have to go, and the entire time you have to look like you're having fun. Especially for the photographers. You have to have a perfect record of your perfect life so you can upstage everyone else.

With every aspect of prom, there was always a conflict, an expense, or an irony. I mean, this is supposed to be one of the best times in your life, and it's wrought with confusion. First, find a date. Has to be someone socially acceptable, otherwise it would be less embarrassing to just not go. Then, go through the trauma of asking your prospective date to actually go with you, or if you're a woman, wait to be asked, which is almost more cruel. Then, see which of your friends are going, organize what group you'll go with to your prom.

Then you have to start working on the details. For men, this meant transportation, the cheapest tuxedo, what kind of corsage to buy, something that pins on, something they wear on their wrist, or something they carry, like a bouquet. Oh, and don't forget the most important part: enough liquor and/or condoms. Note how suddenly the prospect of multiple hookers performing anything you'd ever want is both less expensive and less of a hassle than this quote-unquote "date." For women, the details meant picking out the right dress, the right shoes, the right purse, the right jewelry, the right perfume, the right make-up, the right hair style. Note how you have to then co-ordinate your clothing with your date. So much like real life.

Then, beg your parents to let you wear the dress you picked out, or keep the make-up and hair style the way you wanted it. Beg your parents to let you borrow their sports car. Beg you parents for enough money to pay for the limo, the flowers, the clothes, the film for the camera. Beg your parents to let you stay out past curfew, how about 6 a.m., just this once. But, come on, it's prom.

Then the Big Day arrives. Ditch school, because you know, getting you hair done can take hours, and you want to spend some time in the sun, so you don't look as pale as a ghost for the pictures. Then, after getting ready for an inordinate amount of time, meet up and take the pictures. Urgh. This usually entails the man picking up the woman, taking pictures at the woman's parent's house, then going back to the man's parent's house and taking more pictures there. It's almost worse than a wedding.

Then finally arrive at Prom. Take more pictures. Talk to as many friends as you can there, compliment their dresses and tuxedos. Find out what everyone else is doing after prom, see if anyone is doing anything better than you. Note how many women are repeatedly pulling up their strapless dresses so they don't fall out of them. Note how many men are already drunk, and look, it's not even dinner yet. Take lots of pictures with your instamatic camera. Let's do a group shot. Oh, let me take a picture with so-and-so.

Then eat. Try to figure out how to eat your salad without using your knife. Check to see how little all the women are actually eating. Note how many women go to the bathroom in groups. In any case, whatever you do, don't stop feeling awkward. But keep smiling.

Then the dancing. Try to remember what your father taught you. Try not to look stiff. Try not to sweat. Dance in a box. Right foot forward, feet together, left foot left, feet together, right foot backward, feet together, right foot right, feet together. Or go for the high school standby; wrap your arms around each other and sway, occasionally making out in the middle of the dance floor. Note how many women have their lipstick smeared across their cheek, or on their date's collar. Note how many bow ties have loosened.

Then collect your things, say your good-byes, take a few more photos and head out for the after-prom activities. Possible options include a late dinner, a four-hour boat cruise, a walk along the lake, a bonfire, bowling, a hotel party, or the back of dad's sports car. Note how disheveled you look by six a.m.; try to clean yourself up in the car before you get to your driveway, in case your parents are waiting for you. Don't make out for too long as you say your good-byes in front of your house.

Then, get in the house as quietly as possible, drop all your clothes into a pile in the middle of your bedroom floor, and collapse on your bed. Here's a helpful hint: drink a glass of water and take a vitamin and some aspirin before crashing; it will help with the hangover. Try to get some sleep before the day-after-prom amusement park trip, and keep in mind that even though prom is over, your friends will be rehashing it for at least a week. This is the ritual. Now go to sleep.

RESULTS FROM
THE HIGH SCHOOL SURVEY

Yes, the results are finally tallied and the ones who were brave enough to share will see how they fit in below. A few notes about the results: ( ) indicate the general view with individual answers listed for your reading pleasure,{ } reflect my comments. Grog's always lookin' out for you...

Did you actually graduate from high school? (no GED's)

Yes (22)

- Yes, I actually graduated but I cheated.
- um, yes, although i didn't deserve to from a hard work viewpoint.
- Top 5 in my class...Sum Cum Laude (although you'd never know it now)
- uhm yeah i think thats what the piece of paper was for.

Not yet.(9)

- NO, i did not, i'm still in highschool..i'm gonna be a junior..oh yah
- I'm gonna be a senior if that has any merit.
- Nope...only 2 more years to go though
- im a junior you loser. im in a bad mood. excuse me. im a cute wittle emo girlie. come cuddle wif meeee and play legos and drink applejuice... then we'd make out to weezer and grade..... please? im getting off the topic..... sorry.... {What?!?!?!?!?!?}

Not yet (see #3) {Graduated 98}

No (1)

- No, i was too cool at the time, now im just a fuckin idiot!!!!!

Have you or are you planning to go to your 10 year reunion? Why?

Yes (20)

- Yes. it will be legal for me to get with Mr. Lillis, my history teacher.
- probably will, just to see how those few people i actually liked in high school are doin.
- I went (5-year, too)
- Dood, i think a 10 year reunion would be totally awesome, just to see everyone and find out what they are doing with their lives
- Yes, because I will want to see all my old friends and how their lives are going.
- Yes, I'm planning to attend my ten year reunion if I'm coherent enough to know when it will be. Because I will get to see if any one turned out to be a bigger loser than I did.
- Yea, to see old friends, the type you say hey to, but never wanted to call. To see how we all are "turning out", and to see if high school really shapes our lives (i.e. where are the people with good grades, bad grades, popular kids, less fortunate).
- Yup. To rub my elevated corporate status in the faces of my former classmates
- I'll definitly be there unless i die or something but i hope that wont happen.
- I am planning on going to my ten year high school reunion, simply to sit back and laugh at all the "cool" people who made fun of me in school, and are now wandering around with a husband that beats them and 4 kids.
- Of course! So everyone can see how everyone sold out, including me. I mean I want to be a rich socialist.
- yeah, if I have one, cause I had lots of friends that live all over and it would be one of the few chances to see them all again. i went to high school in Okinawa on a military base so everyone moves away
- yes, because by that time i will have grown my dream goatee, moo ha ha ha!!!
- love to, to show all those prep ass bitches whos the shit!!!... hahahaha!
- Yes. I want to see all of the popular kids in school who thought i was wierd for the music I liked or the way I dressed. We'd stand around and discuss our favorite "alternative" bands. Haha.
- ill be there to fuck shit up. hell yea.
- yeah. to see the old crew i use to kick it with. even though i know we dont have the same things in common any more. i still want to be like hey yo waz up?/! and see how everybody has changed over time; hopefully become wiser and not as foolish as we all once were.
- I want to go. I probably will.
- Yes I went. The first night was ok, it was like being back at any of the old high school parties except that now I was able to drink legally. The second night was formal and made me think of a school dance (which I never went to anyway). That's when people really started to piss me off, dropping into their old cliques and basically being closed-minded assholes!

Maybe (7)

- Missed my 5 yr cuz I was scared to see these people, not sure if I'll go to my 10 yr. I kinda want to so that I can go back and say "Look at me. I'm so foxy! I have a kickass job in NYC and I'm having such a great life and y'all thought I was insane and y'all never left home and have boring jobs and got married with kids way too early..." and then again I don't want to go cuz I'm scared to see these people.
- If I have nothin' else goin' on that night. It would be extremly akward, but it could be worth a good laugh as well.
- Probably not seein as how I didn't even go to the prom.
- idunno. I haven't given it any thought
- hmmm...depends on how bored i am with my life then.
- probably. cuz i wont have anything better to do.
- It's this year I don't know yet. I would enjoy seeing some of those people again, but I don't think I care to experience them all at once. I'd like to have 1-on-1 conversations with some of them to see how life is going, what they've experienced, just to relate in general. I don't think I could relate to them as a group though. It would be just as annoying as high school was. A bunch of insecure people competing for each others attention. The depressing part is that they should be over that by now, but most likely are not. Maybe I'll make an effort to find out...and maybe not.

No (5)

- i think there wil be a reunion while i'm in america.....
- no, my high school bored the fuck out of me, and i seriously considered getting my GED before my senior year so i could attend college with my friends.

No, I hated High School, High School hated me.

No, I had better things to do.

I did not attend! Because everyone treated me like shit in High School, so why visit beef eating assholes. {I sense a bit of hostility}

When did you (or will you) graduate? From which school?

1985 - Dixie HS
1986 - Beavercreek HS; Fairborn HS
1987 - Tecumseh
1988 - Cedarville High School
1989 - Dayton Christian
1991 - Classical High - Providence, RI
1992 - at the Augustinanum in Eindhoven Holland; Deming HS(NM)
1993 - Stebbins HS (2); 1993(?)
1994 - American Schools in Chicago, IL
1995 - Representin from a small hick school in the middle of nowhere called Greenon; Manual High, Denver, CO

1996 - New Trier Township HS; 1996(?)
1997 - Bellport (Hellport) HS; Caldwell County HS; 1997(?)
1998 - Watkins Mill HS(Gaithersburg, MD); Smithtown HS
1999 - Hillard-Darby HS; Northmont; (din dinn din nih nih) from St. Charles HS; 1999 motherfucka.
2000 - Class of 2000 Baby!! WoooHooo; Class of 2000 Baby of JP Stevens; 2000 woop de doo.
2001 - 2001 :o\; 2001(?)
No Year Given - At the end of 12th grade HS of art & design in NYC.

Were you still a virgin when you graduated? (If you weren't, please list all the gory details, since Grog missed that kind of stuff in high school).

Yes (13) {Are we all dateless losers, or were the only people available to much of losers to waste our time, let alone, virginity on.}

- Yes. Alas. But I didn't hate myself too much for it.
- gory details? i havent even kissed a sorry ass fucker in my life yet.
- i was a virgin till the age of 20. saved myself for the right person. and im still with em today! after a more than a year of being with him the love has grown and spread. it is so awsome!!! glad i didnt have sex with anybody before him!
- i am still a virgin and i am 18. i aint stickin nuthin til i'm married.
- Yes, I was saving myself for someone who would actually have sex with me.
- Do dreams count Grog, or are we talking reality here? {If I was talking dreams then you could say I lost mine in Elementary school instead of at 20.}
- Yes, I'm Grog dammit (Virgin until 20)
- A virgin what?

Still in High School (8)

- I'm still a virgin . . in highschool.(2)
- Well, i didn't graduate and i am still a virgin, and damn proud of it. But when i do have sex, i will be sure to tell you everything...
- Well, I'm still a virgin. Whether I still will be in 2 months remains to be seen (I've got a girlfriend, but we've only been going out for 2 weeks, so it's hard to say.)
- Well i didn't graduate yet and I'm still a virgin. But you never know, that could change. I got 2 years left of high school....lol
- Still a virgin...unfortunately
- sorry, still a virgin

No (11)

- No, I've had sex with three boys and two girls.
- No I wasn't.
- Nope. As the old joke goes: "Why is a drag race like teen-age sex? 10 seconds of furious action, and the smell of burnt rubber."
- No I was not a virgin when I graduated. I started dating a senior during my junior year of high school, and we had sex after dating for about 11 months. We were together for approxamately a year and a half, it seems like after we had sex it just got weirder and weirder, we broke up for about 8 months and we just got back together on April 2nd 1998.
- um, no, i wasn't. i lost my virginity my junior year to a girl whom is now referred to only as girl c. in a disgustipated manner.
- Lost it like 2 months before. I bled all over my jacket.
- No - just barely. Details? Well, there was sex involved.
- no. hahaha, sex is cool
- No. And No Comment.
- Unfortenly no. lost that shit when i was 14, wish i never made that mistake!
- No. I only did it once while in HS. The gory details - It happened so fast, I'm still debating whether or not it was all just a dream.

What types of drugs did you ingest by the end of high school?

None (12)

- Uhm, i'm sXe, so none, but i do take advil or something when i have a headache..but that doesn't count.
- Tylenol exclusivly, but only for headaches.
- none, I be sXe
- umm... just caffine
- NONE!! sXe for life
- none, im cool, im straight edge!
- None. I'm a drug virgin and proud of it.
- what the flying fizzuck. i dont even take cough medicine. no im not sxe you fuckup. im just into herbal shit.
- what the fuck? hardest drugs and alcohol i have ever done is nyquil and vivarin.
- Ahhhh...asprin.

Various (20)

- Cigarettes, alcohol, marijuana, caffine, speed, risperdol, zoloft and prozac (so far).
- Alcohol, nicotine, marijuana, LSD, psylocibin, DXM
- beer & wine coolers
- Just lots of beer, wine, whiskey, and cigarettes.
- i started to smoke pot when i had allready left highschool, but i made it up allright ;).
- I quit all drugs, I had enough burnt out days in Junior High.
- Pot, alky-hol, and prescription pain-killers. Oh, and a helluva lotta caffeine (mmm...coffee in calc)
- I smoke and have done weed and acid
- Lots of alcohol (there's just nothing better to do in Bellport), lots of marijuana (hey why not), lots of caffeine, seldane, advil, flonase (nasally ingested steroids), Tavist D, prozac, tylenol, pamprin, midol, nyquil, dayquil, maalox, nicotine, hash etc.
- marijuana, nicotine, acid, ritalin, kool-aid powder(if that isn't a drug, i don't know what is.) alcohol, mini thins, maxalerts and zolaf
- Booze, speed, weed
- Coffee, Alcohol, Pot
- Marijuana, alcohol, nicotine, nutmeg (yes it is a drug for those of you desperate enough to try) and some pills which I never found out what they were.
- Ummmm, I don't know if you "ingest" this stuff, but pot and acid.
- wow...lets see...alcohol and cigarettes, pot, acid, cocaine, and a few others...damn looking back makes me vomit...but i never took enuff midol...damn...maybe thats why i had no friends well i got to say just pot. well at least thats all i know of. im sure there was some of it laced with other things but uhm, yeah pot. there was this one time though that i was going to do acid but didnt because, well a guy that took a hit of the stuff i had went into a coma, so i was like uhm nope not doing that!!
- Alcohol, Nyquil, Nicotine and Vics formula 44.
- The usual.
- Pot (I quit my Junior year), codine ,caffine (I quit last year) & alcohol

What types of drugs did you ingest while in class?

None (23)

- caffine from coffee
- None, but that cute girl that wore the mini-skirt (without underwear) and sat across from me in English class was quite intoxicating.
- hmm...
- caffeine
- Taco Bell
- Apathy pills, anti-memory capsules and non-concentration concentrate.
- umm... i drank coke in a couple classes
- Nothing. I TRIED to be good!
- i said none!!!!!
- None. It was just me and lifetime supply of Skittles that got me through my classes.
- youre a crackfuck
- fuck that
- Vics formula 44.

Various (9)

- Speed.
- marijuana (only once or twice though)
- Well one time, i was being a bad girl, and i took this special medicine for my monthly visitor cause i didnt feel well
- Just caffeine and booze.
- Bud
- nicotine, caffeine, urm, marijuana, minithins, maxalerts, zolaf, and kool-aid powder (all of the smoked ones i was technically in class, even if i did slip outside to do them)
- pot, alcohol
- Booze, speed, weed (only guilty of this a couple of times...I was a straight student).
- Alcohol (got suspended once for it) and pot.

What was the most outlandish thing you did in school?

- I smeared menstrual blood all over the bathroom stall. (Don't worry I've been tested for STD's)
- cheesed a car.
- Let someone tell a boy that I had a crush on him.
- During lunch one day, i was feeling really hyper and i got up on the table, started to sing and did a strip tease...hahah only kidding..i don't think i ever did anything outlandish...yet
- I wore underwear on my head for crazy hat day. During 3rd period, a girl had a chocolate pop tart, and I couldn't resist giving my whitie-tighties a skid mark
- I faked my own suicide and threatened my teachers with death.
- Cut school to wait outside hotels to meet British rock stars
- i slept most of the time.....
- I flashed the ROTC, but I'm not exactly proud of that.
- Told my trig teacher that he was a fucking moron 'cuz I got a problem on the board right and he got it wrong. Eventually, he realized the error of his ways.
- The time I put a blow up doll in my friend's locker....oh by the way the doll isn't mine it belongs to my friend lauren
- I'm not much of an outlandish doer...but besides eating buds in class, I guess it would be tripping in school...
- I wore a cow suit to school... for no apparent reason... the gym teachers wouldn't let me square dance with it on though, they felt it was innapropriate. Oh, and I smoked pot on the Joe Cipp memorial football field... I hate Joe Cipp and all the stupid football players.
- at the beginning of my sophomore year, i shaved a stripe down the middle of my head
- Tried to commit suicide during 2nd period.
- Went with two people who I hardly even knew to San Diego for Spring Break. I also played drums for our schools production of "Annie". That was pretty wild too.

Going to school is kind of outlandish in itself, isn't it? I can't really remember much of that sort of stuff. I just went. See above.

- Climb around inside the ceiling of our auditorium for hours throwing stuff at the chorus kids.
- it would have been singing whitney houston's "i have nothing" at mock rock, but it was cancelled. theres still this year though..
- get into physical fights with teachers twice my size
- N/A
- i almost had sex with the guy i was dating on the bus for a school feild trip
- got kicked out for having purple hair!
- Nothing, I was the quiet kid that sat in the back of the class most of the time. During my senior year, I became heavily involved in after school activities because I had a crush one of my teachers.
- i flick my teachers off. i write on lockers. i tell everyone im gay. i tell my teachers too. i piss people off cuz im smarter than them. i call every girl a slut. i duct tape people to lockers. i got on the announcements one day.. you dont wanna know what happened then. ~~~ pssssst im a cute wittle emo girlie by the way!!!!!!
- in schoool nothing. i was a good little boy :)
- nuthin
- Survived with my individualism and independant thought intact.
- Released the contents of a can of "Bullshit" spray in the cafeteria. The school had to be evacuated.
- Nothing. I was a boring self-centered twit with a bad haircut and no friends.
- Dressed totally out of fashion, bell bottoms and t-shirts in the Reagan 80's, acted how I felt for the most part and was ridiculed for it.
- I showed up every day. That was enough to piss off a surprising number of people.

If you found a porpoise between your legs, what would you do?

- #1 make sure it doesn't have very sharp teeth. #2 hope the fishy smell would encourage it.
- yes.
- move out of its way
- isn't a porpoise an aminal? i would let it stay there..hahaha i'm silly. i'm kidding that's sick, my no no special spot is only for special people..but really..if it was i would probably freak out.
- What does this have to do with HS? {Don't you remember?}
- Well, first I'd start hitting it like one of those bash-the-moles-in-the head-games that they have at places like Chucky Cheese... then I'd feel sorry and keep it as a pet.
- Wake up quicly
- i think i will look it up in a dictionary first !
- Smack whoever made that question upside the head with it.
- Squirm until it felt good.
- Freak out
- hmmm....What any normal teenage girl would do
- At first I'd probably be really confused, but then I'd probably just try to enjoy it...
- yell, go flipper go! (seriously, this is what popped into my head when i read the question)
- I don't know, but if I found a tortoise between my legs...
- Stroke it.
- An honest yet boring response: Wonder how it got there.
- Be pissed cause my pants would be all wet and stuff.
- i would get even and make sure that at sometime, somewhere in the future that porpoise would find me between his legs.
- ride it to the ocean and frolic in the plains on the way there
- have lots of fun
- a what!!?
- Scream - then make the best of it.
- id perform hardcore animal sex with it... what the shit you want me to say here?
- i would be like get yo tuna smelling breath out of between my legs.
- i dont know what a porpoise is.
- Scream.
- Ride into the sunset.
- Bark like Grog.
- Most likely bark like Grog, since I am.
- That really depends on if you mean a purpose or a porpoise.

Coke, Pepsi, or 7-up?

Coke (12)

- Caffine free coke..i also like 7 up and many other drinks.
- Coke. Pepsi's too sweet, and 7-Up is missing the main ingredient for high school life.
- Caffine free diet Coke.
- coke. im not touching a pepsi product until the bastards pull outta burma.

Pepsi (8)

- Diet Pepsi (actually, Mt. Dew).
- Pepsi..and no, I'm not a "Pepsi generation" kind of girl
- Pepsi... thank god for the Pepsi machine and my daily Dr. Pepper...
- so my much of my money is locked inside that damn machine...
- Crystal Pepsi. Whatever happened to that stuff?
- Caffine Free Pepsi.

7-Up (3)

- 7-up. i dont do the caffine thing anymore. but if i had the chance for water, i would choice that. its better for you.

Other (9) {Dammed independent thinkers, ruining my survey...}

- Water (7-up if it has to be one of the three).
- Dr. Pepper
- Dr. Pepper rules! I only like coke with baccardi
- Mountain Dew
- Mmmmmmm, lemonade. Perhaps the best hangover cure there is.
- none of the above...i drink root beer or stewarts
- Mt.dew.....yes i said mt.dew, and yes im still straight edge!
- Snapple
- Hawaiian Punch

What did High School really teach you?

- PEOPLE ARE SOOOOO SHALLOW.
- how to write a paper, how to bullshit your way through classes, and that money corrupts.
- Proper grammar. Bad grammar is actually a pet peeve of mine. It wasn't school but work (@16) that taught me the most about real life
- honestly, a lot. i mean there is so much i learned in my classes, and i also learned about people, most of them seem to be assholes, but if you get to know someone, they really are nice..they just act like that to be "cool"
- That you have to be yourself, and once you are, never prostitute yourself. If you can do that, you will find your true friends.
- High School taught me that most people suck, that I'm kind of strange, and the most important thing I learned is that if you pretend like you're smart other people will start to really think you're smart.
- A lot about art, fashion and being hipper than thou.
- Monthy Python's Life of Brian is still fun after watching it hundreds of times in relegion-class. (I also discovered Neil Young in that class actually, Rockin' in the free world was played in some video)"Artificial insemination is when the farmer does it to the cow instead of the bull.", "When you breathe, you inspire. When you do not breathe you expire." "H20 is hot water, and C02 is cold water.", "To collect fumes of sulphur, hold a deacon over a flame in a test tube.", "When you smell an odorless gas, it is probably carbon monoxide." "Nitrogen is not found in Ireland because it is not found in a free state.", "Water is composed of two gins: Oxygin and Hydrogin. Oxygin is pure gin. Hydrogin is gin and water."
- To turn pain into inspiration. Self Respect. .
- That small-town hicks will always be small-town hicks and that life's too short to drink bad beer.
- It taught me friendship
- That I can put up with moronic, self-absorbed people without going insane. And that any institution is not fair, they are always bias against one group...more then another.
- That 95% of all people suck and you should avoid them at all costs. The other 5% taught me that there are cool people in the world, people that won't judge you simply based on the way your dressed or how many drugs you do.
- don't listen to anyone when they tell you who to be or what is cool.
- It just keeps getting worse from here.
- No one knows what the fuck is goin' on.
- I went to an all boys school so I guess "Don't display any emotions that might suggest you're gay."
- That I am way smarter than everyone else and that I would have way more fun in college
- it taught me (so far) that kids and adults are morons for the most part and theres no hope for the world
- waking up early sux more and more each year
- How to get out of things or around things and look like it's not your fault.
- why i hate people
- how to be a dick!
- 1) Never trust people. 2) Honors classes mean nothing in college. 3) High school is nothing but a big social circle. 4) People are so close-minded. 5) Most of your friends you used to hang out with really mean nothing to you outside of school.
- education is keen dood. but social wise it taught me to be a misanthropic asshole. die fuckers.
- that alot of people are shallow and fake. your true friends will be there and that ones you thought were true werent. its a hard world we live in. and adults think that we cant think on our own. thats why we have to be home by whatever time and do whatever they tell us to do because we are young and stupid. well i learned that they werent doing that stuff to be meen or be in power but doing it because they loved us and didnt want us to get hurt. but when a city tells you when you have to be home is total crap! leave it up to your folks! we all arent the same!
- girls are difficult... schoolwork sucks... you dont really learn any thing except for a few facts of life. #1 to get anywhere, you dont really need to know anything, you just need legal documentation to say you do. #2 College costs a lot. #3 people are dicks. and some people are nice.
- Fallacy, hypocrisy, and popularity are how most people judge success.
- How to do grammer really good like.
- #1 To be mean and hateful. #2 Not trust anyone. #3 Vengence. #4 To lie through my teeth.
- Not to get caught up in what people think of you and to be yourself since once you're out it's all up to you. Also don't bother argueing with close minded people, it just doesn't work. And that most people don't give a shit about anyone other than themselves.
- How far you can push people before they want to beat you up. More specifically, how much you can say to a redneck before he realizes you're actually insulting & making fun of him.

Did you ever really like the people you went to school with or were you forced to deal with a bunch of idiots that you hope will all implode or at least move to an Oklahoma trailer park?

Liked the bastards (2).

- Yes - Everyone in the school was some kind of artist and they were all creative and hip and odd and fun and dressed way cool.
- I like everyone I meet. Liars aren't cool though, back stabbers suck. But in general I haven't met anyone I hated in highschool.

Liked a few of the bastards(20).

- Mostly idiots. We had 700 people in our class so i met a few cool ones. most were snobby assholes.
- I liked the few people whom I considered friends.
- Actually, i don't like most people, but i get along with everyone
- Both- I have found a handful of great people who I would trust with my life, but most everyone else could fall off the face of the Earth tomorrow without a tear from me.
- I liked a few of the people I went to school with, but for the most part, they were a bunch of idiots. BTW: In Neuvo Mexico, a great deal of them already lived in trailer parks.
- Yes, I met alot of good friends here in good old jps. Granted there are alot of assholes but i learned to deal with them
- I have a coupla people I truly enjoy, but taking school from the full aspect--There are quite a few idiots
- 95% of the people I went to school with should be locked in a room with a caged ceiling so I can stand above them and throw grenades in on them randomly. This way, the people that aren't dead once I run out of grenades are sure to be at least terribly mutilated. The other 5% were amazing people, a lot of them I've lost contact with and I regret that a lot. But many will be friends for life, no mat ter how rarely I speak to them... High School was incredibly rough for me and the small precentage of people that got me through it I will remember forever... I'm actually writing a screenplay about those people right now.
- i liked some of them, but most of them were rednecks whom loved to call me faggot, and tell me to go worship satan. so, i wish 90% of them would implode
- I liked some people. Unfortunately, I think most of the people I liked are more likely to implode or move to said trailer park
- Some were really cool. YOu know the type, the ones that you can laugh and joke with about all of the other imploding twats and Oklahama trailer park gits.
- Had to deal with idiots until 11 th grade then made lots of cool friends
- i like some kidz, a lot of my friends went to skool with me
- I didn't like most of the people I went to school with. Everybody was so fake and wanted you to think they were so great. I had plenty of friends, but as for everyone else, they can disapear on an alien ship and I wouldn't care less.
- put it this way...i only talk to 4 people i went to school with...and that means all 13 yrs of school
- well i did go to school with a bunch of PWT, poor white trash, but the people i went to school with were really cool. if i had to do it over again.....i would do it in an instant. i would change one thing though, and i would have "come out of the closet" a long time ago. most the people at school werent friends with the real me. they

were friends with a part of me but not the hole deal.
- hmmmm. some people were nice i guess.
- Some, but then again where are they now?
- There were a few people who I liked, but most of them drifted off into the unknown and now probably lead boring complacent lives. The rest of the lot can wallow in their own stupidity.
- Some of them were ok. I wasn't very social.

Kill the bastards(10).

- Idiots is a severe understatement.
- I hated them. I will hunt them down, one by one, and dispose of them with my wooden sword that I made in wood shop... the angel of death is upon them... the day of reckoning is at hand.
- Most of them were idiots. They didn't like the Pixies :)
- I hated everyone, I still hate everyone.
- idiots
- i hate people.....
- B.
- the fuckers deserve to be shot. the whole sorry lot of them.
- The Oklahoma trailer park portion.
- Beef eating jerks who only cared about their cars, hair, clothes, beverages and screwing. Sounds like Mite!

Paper or Plastic?

Paper(13)

- Paper. Kill the trees! They killed Sonny Bono and smashed Tony Danza's face... let's make them pay!
- paper...no doubt, plastic is getting way too popular...
- paper because it's "better for the environment" jermee i directly quoted you on that one
- paper? plastic? ah you meen at the grocery store? well paper of course! paper can be recycled. plastic just goes to the dump and sits there, but at most these joints they no longer carry paper be cause for some stupid reason. i guess they are trying to decide for us. just another way that whitey is tryin to bring us all down!!! let us think for ourselves! oh yeah plus paper doesnt tear as easily as i have found out plastic does.
- paper because it's "better for the environment".

Plastic(9)

- one paper bag inside a plastic bag (I did my grandmothers' grocery shopping my senior year of high school). But before I got a car plastic was always better... it protects you from rain during the walk home.
- If you're too cheap, you can use the plastic bags as trash bags rather than buying heafty bags, but I usually use my messanger bag...you get 2 cents deducted when you bring your own.
- I know its not politically correct, but plastic is more convienent! Sorry!!
- plastic...fuck the earth

Other (9)

- Neither...*save the trees*
- Pocket
- Mikasa bone china.
- Depends on the supplies.
- None. I don't even have enough money to afford paper or plastic.
- who gives a shit
- yo mom!
- Latex
- Vinyl

What is the length of you penis or depth of your vagina?

Penis(12)

- 2Pi
- My penis is ALMOST 6 inches long.
- Longer'n a hamster's, shorter'n a horse's.
- uh....100
- 4in limp
- short, very short, well i guess, i never really asked another guy to measure with me.
- lol!!!!!! well since you have the balls(if a guy) and boobs(if a girl) to ask ill tell ya. im around the "average" of 6 inches or so.
- when my penis is erect i think it is maybe 6 inches, but i have never measured it
- 7 inches (erect).
- 73 wugums.
- 6.1387526"
- 5 inches...in circumference

Vagina(5)

- At least twelve inches.
- Unfathomable
- Deep enough.
- "I want to be as deep as the ocean."
- The Grand Canyon.

Other Answer (15)

- good question.
- I have no idea
- Dood, people actally measure the depth of their vagina? wouldn't it be the same for every girl?
- my mommy told me not to play with that dirty thing between my legs, so don't know
- How degrading.
- I have no clue....
- Never measured
- I have absolutely no idea... and actually, I really don't want to know.
- did i say no sidestepping? can someone please tell me?
- Do you get any honest responses here? I don't want to boast or lie or both.
- i can't tell you that... cos you're a stranger
- i dunno. fully erect or not?
- If I was to actually try to mesure the depth of my vagina.....I would feel pretty stupid doing it!!! So I give a "no comment" on this one!
- what the hell were you smoking when you came up with this question
- okay i admit i masturbate on a regular basis but i dont stick rulers up my cunt to see how deep my pussy is, dumbfuck.

What purpose did the previous question serve?

- To see how honest / serious we are.
- another good question
- none for us women
- Nothing, but it did make me horny, cause i started thinking about big penises..hahah kidding
- Isn't that a retorical question?
- Your secretly interviewing readers for parts in a Mutant Renegade porno movie? "Grog and Mite Screw Dayton"?!
- Vicarious cheap thrill
- you all know my mommy is a bitch
- It was a bad question, lets not go through this again.
- To make people lie.
- None whatsoever but it got me thinking about all those big worms out there.
- I dunno, you're the one who wrote it.
- Again, I have absolutely no idea...
- to satisfy grogs sick longings to compare himself to other males and females...
- You seem so perverted...
- You were feeling horny
- Genitals are funny.
- to belittle and poke fun at me in your zine
- i dunno...
- its a good one
- I suppose it would fulfill a perverts dream.....
- it made me curious
- none!
- Just so I could quote Jane's Addiction.
- its all good
- good question. i dont really know
- u asked it bucko
- Pure juvenile toilet humor, but well done PJTH.
- Grog wants to see if he measures up.
- To excite Grog who only has sexual contact with himself. {Hey...}
- Because it seemed funny and would get a rise out of people.
- Masturbation material for Grog. {I have better material than this...}

Elvis or the Beatles?

{Damn nobody picked up on the Pulp Fiction reference!}

Beatles. (11)

- please. the beatles.
- really neither, but if i had to choose one i would say the Beatles.
- Definitely the Beatles

Elvis (4)

- The King, of course!
- young elvis...none of the fat shit (2)

Both or some weird combination (2)

- Equal.
- The Belvises.

Other(11)

- Dinosaur Jr.
- Elvis. . Costello (2)
- I hate em both.... "I am the eggman I am the walrus" what the fuck is up with that?
- Elvis was the original singer for Negative Approach
- neither
- dood. I LIKE KORN. note the sarcasm you androids.
- neither. they both suck. well ok they dont suck they just arent my kinds faves. but without em where would music be today? i dont know. so im glad that they exsisted
- Hanson or Barry Manilow?
- IGGY!!!
- Roy Orbison

Describe Grog to the best of your ability (esp. if you've never met him. Include looks, attitude, dress, lifestyle, habits, etc.) extra credit for describing Mite.

Grog is tall and thin and in his twenties. He has light brown curly hair but he dyes it blonde and thinks we can't tell. He has brown eyes and a chicken pox scar on his cheek. There's a mole behind his ear. And then there's that scar on his you-know-what from that unfortunate CocaCola bottle incident. He thinks he's all that but tries not to let people know. He also listens to Billy Ray Cyrus late at night when he thinks everyone's asleep. He has a closet full of Adidas and glam clothes, and at least three boas. He's a sex obsessed Scorpio contemplating beastiality, but still not quite sure he can go through with it. (See Sketch)

typical slightly overweight grass-smoking non-hippy computer science major.

Tall; avg. weight; perfect teeth; lt. brown hair; blue eyes; big, bright, warm smile; laughs a lot; has a boyish way of walking; listens intently to what you're saying as if you're uttering the most profound gibberish he has ever heard.

Well, i don't know grog, but i am sure he is a super nice boy.

He is the best looking cross dresser ever, next to Ru Paul

Grog is a 300 pound balding transvestite that wears make-up and girl clothes. He loves life and is kind to people and small animals. His personal creed is "Do unto others before they do unto you." and he's very nice until you stab him in the back. He loves parading up and down Brown Street at night and he enjoys theatre and fine arts. He's a chronic masturbater and enjoys drinking beer more than anything. Mike is small elfin looking character that looks like he came straight from some kind of lepercahn woodstock. He dresses like a hippy and all he cares about is smoking pot.

Must be Leoardo DiCaprio's twin brother.

in Holland a Grog is a drink which you drink when you're sick. It's orange juice with honey and i think rum. my mom drinks it all the time

Grog? hmm... nice zine? Yea, nice zine Grog. I'd give you a good review for sure (write back if you want one)

Goddam hippie. Whyn't you get a haircut, sister? {Are you quoting the Mats?}

He is soooo sexy! Yeah baby!

uh...ummm...could you repeat the question??

I have an odd feeling that Grog and I would get along really well... he seems like an odd enough guy. If he wears enough polyester he's in.

tall, skinny, blond hair blue eyes, very fastidious and reclusive, wears combat boots in his sleep, steals money from microsoft on the internet, smokes like a freight chain

Too many cigarettes too much coffee???

No - too much writting

Good, nice, groovy, hard-living, too many, lots of etc.

he is definitely a stud horse, he's a bit cocky cause he feels his zine is the shit. he has short hair and a nose and lip ring. dresses like a dork in forty's shirts and watches friends all the time and is really sad about seinfeld ending...hangs out in coffee shops but denies it or says he hangs out at one that is "different, not like those other ones." picks his nose in public but acts very punk about it.

Grog?, Grog defies description...

what in the hell is a Grog?

a midget with green hair and black eyes who dresses in all prints and spends his free time tying up small children and tickling their toes with his tongue.

he was cool the only time i met him, at canal street, i was all scared cause he's such a big rock star!!!!!

Grog is dreamy. Mike probably looks like Frank Black.

who the fuck is grog? do i *want* to know him?

Grog? who are you? i dont know. uhm i bet you have black hair with those emo looking glasses with hazel eyes and a couple tats. i think you think the world is against you. because of the winger shirts you hide in your closet along with your homosexuality. you are a definet nail biter that is always worried about the "little things". even though you are always worring, you are an all around happy guy that is smilin just about all the time.

he asks some fucked up questions

6'-7", 200 pounds with grey hair, blue eyes a walrus mustache and a passion for hats.

Grog is a little hairy, grunting guy who visits me sometimes in the funny pages.

Self-centered asshole who only watches out for himself, just like Greg Reynolds!

I know way too much about that bastard. Quite frankly if I weren't him I'd be scared.

aahhhhhh...You don't EVEN want me to go there. I could describe what Grog looks like after being on the road for a week. Don't get me started.

Are you a Luddite?

Yes (3)

- At the equator, yes
- Yes, in 1815 my blokes and I got cheesed off and smashed some working equipment to pieces. It was a bunch of poppycock.
- of course

No (11)

- No, I'm Jewish.
- Considering I'm answering via e-mail, I'd have to say I'm not.
- Not really...but I'm a spice girl...feline spice
- I don't think so.
- no but im a bitch
- Considering I am majoring in Mechanical Design & e-mailing this survey, I'd say no.

- i thought Luddites were only british people between 1811 and 1816 who destroyed factory equipment. im smarter than you. thats all i can say. {Actually people in present times who believe all traces of the industrial revolution should be destroyed are referred to as luddites as well, not just the actual Brits in 1811-1816 who spawned the name.}
- No, I'm a spazz. {We all know that}

What? (13) {See a few of the answers under no, to learn what a luddite is / was}

- huh? (3)
- What's a Luddite?! (2)
- What the hell's that?
- ummm....i have no clue what that is.
- lemme see... i'm not finding it...i have been ludicrous before though.
- what in the hell is a luddite?
- Lud-dite...luddd- ite..what's dat?
- wha?
- luddite? i dont know what it meens, its not in my dictionary so i cant tell you iuf i am or am not.
- dunno

Other (4)

- Wow, three good questions now. {Thanks}
- I think my mom is. {That's not what she told Mite the other night.}
- I tried it once, but I had to stop because my thights starting chaffing real bad.
- Do you even know what a luddite is? {Yes, do you?}

Favorite band at the exact moment you are filling this out.

Dinosaur Jr.(2)
Portishead.
the velvet underground
I'm still pretty loyal to Def Leppard, (Guess I'm not very anon now, am I?) but I'm really liking just about everything on the X -- except for the Wallflowers; I just don't get it.
Uhm i don't know. sunny day real estate. but right now i have poveratti running through my mind, cause i am watching seinfeld and it's the clown episode..damn i love this show
Rollins Band
The Beatles, XTC, Pink Floyd, Kinks, Nirvana, Radiohead, and Captain Geech and the Shrimp Shack Shooters.
Sean Altman (OK so he's a solo artist and a client - wanna make something of it?)
sonic youth
Downset!
Dead Kennedys, but it changes by the minute.
Green Day
don't have one
Tool, The Violent Femmes, or the Fugees
Starlight Desperation...GVSB...Tortoise
Dinosaur Jr or the Beatles.
Fugazi/sonic youth...i just can't decide which more
'til tuesday
Gorilla Biscuits
Black Sabbath
third eye blind
GWAR!, who else!
Silkworm

frodus
N.I.V(no innocent victim)-rfom cali- and you should all, if in the dayton area, catch em playing with another band named disciple-from pa- and 12 tribes-dayton representing- at the proven grounds on july 9. its only 5 bones so be there!
Converge
Insane Clown Posse
The Barnhills
Replacements and Todd Snider
Frenzal Rhomb since I'm listening to them right now (It changes all the time).
Bob Mould

Band you are listening to as you fill this out.

Madonna (Music choice dance channel).
well, i'm not listening to anything, but my roommate has some old expirimental band that bjork was in going in the other room.
The B-52's "Love Shack"
nuffin
Jimmie's Chicken Shack
Milli Vanilli
Fastball
Metal Molly - surgery for Zebra
Maximum Penalty
Dead Kennedys, thus the answer for #18.
Screeching Weasel
Not listening to one...but I'm watching phenonmenon!!
Santana
ack...i don't know who the hell they are, stupid mtv oh no...it was hanson(hangs head in shame and cries)
Dean Martin (Ahhhhh)
Splitter
Blur.
someone's playing beastie boys real loud and I just listened to Pennywise
t. rex
Bold
The radio in this room broke last week. However, I am accepting donations.....
cradle of filth
yo moms screams of lust!
Replacements
frodus. dood i worship them and soz
well when i started filling this thing out it was overcome. now it has moved on to jazz june.
Shai Hulud
Pantara
NOFX
Whiskeytown.
Frenzal Rhomb.
I'm at work, I'm not listening to anything. {And wasting valuable company time on this crap, I'm proud of you.}

If you could have sex with anybody of the opposite gender, who would it be?

Mr. Lillis
my girlfriend (how sweet, eh?)
The perfect male specimen, of course, as yet unknown, but in the meantime, I'd settle for Bill Paxton or Gary Oldman (like those older guys!!!)
My very bestest friend who i love to death..i can't tell you his name..sorry nosey people
Maia J. (a girl from my school)
Jenna Elfman
Someone whith whom I am in love.
i think Pamela Anderson will be every one's #1
No more sex questions ya goof.
Marilyn Monroe
This guy Jeremy Marcus. He just graduated from jps. I think he is so sexy. He probably has no idea who I am but i think he looks like a good phuc.
Anyone willing. (Does that make me a slut?? :))
It's a tie between Evan Dando and J Mascis.
Kristi Killian(a girl from my high school, who got married and moved to panama :( )
Johnny Bluejeans
Juliana Hatfield - I met her this weekend, and she's HOT
All of them. I love women! There's some that would rock your socks off though.
Lucy Lawless from Xena: Warrior Princess for example. Wooo baby.
"Brenda" (the character) from General Hospital
young diane lane or the girl from the big comfy couch or that lady wearing a leather jacket in the jerry springer too hot for t.v. video that flashes the crowd.
the weight training girl on ESPN 2
I don't have anybody in mind, but it would be someone very rich and paying me a lot of money to keep my mouth shut!!!!
well...he works at american eagle, and im spending time with him saturday night so maybe....
Bjork!!!!

If you could have sex with anybody of the same gender, who would it be?

Actually Answered

- Winona Ryder (2)
- The girl from Sneaker Pimps.
- slash
- Ru Paul
- A menage a trois with Grog and Mite.
- Hal
- Elvis Presley
- Maynard James Keenan
- Drew Barrynore
- Maybe Sean Connery. But I don't think he'd be in like Flynn.
- Definitely grog...if he didn't hang out at coffee shops so much.
- you wouldnt know her but it was this raver girl i met awhile ago
- You!!
- well if i was a single man uhm lets see here.....who would you all know.....uhm well i like bigger and usually older guys.....uhm.....you know the guy that plays dan conner on rossane? well yeah him. he is so hot!!!!!
- well, tomorrow is thursday.... hmmmmm... ohh!! wait!! FABIO!!
- Robert Redford
- IGGY {Even though this came from a female I can apreciate Iggy's femine qualities}
- Tom Selleck or Leonardo DiCaprio

Self or don't have anyone in mind {Slight cop-out}

- Based on experience, I'd have to say Myself.
- Myself
- a clone of myself most likely...
- I haven't been met a guy I've been interested in, but my hand gets plenty of action.

Cannot deal with latent homosexual tendancies.

- Uhm, i wouldn't cause i'm not like that
- Not interested
- no comment.
- I just wouldn't
- Not into that....
- I'm not into that
- See above answer, just kidding!!! Nobody!!!!!

So uptight they couldn't even answer the question.

- what did i just say you assinine cum guzzler. {That "sex is gross, risky, dumb and pointless" and that you'll change your mind within 5 years.}
- Gee, you are desperate Grog. {Maybe that should be my new name Desperate Grog}

Do you think the questions should stop now?

NO! (10)

- No, i don't. i am starting to like these sexy questions. you should have asked more. :)
- No, I was hoping I could answer more.
- No, more please!
- no, the survey is fun.
- No. I'm just getting started.
- no, i want more!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- No, this survey needs to be as long as the SATs. You know, just to keep that high school theme going.
- damn i was having fun. *sniff*
- no but i guess they do since this is the last one.

Yes (16)

- why not.
- Yes, please. (2)
- yeah because i am really tired and i want to go to sleep now and dream of the hottie I metioned in question number 20! Yeah baby.... suki suki now!Hey everybody,
- I guess now's a good a time as any.
- Looks like they already have.
- Oh yeah! (said like Mach Man Randy Savage)
- Yeah, how about that, I could be whacking it.
- yeah... i'm really sorry i sent this to everyone.
- yeah
- Yes!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- yessir
- Definitely
- Yes
- Yes, or I'd have to compile a bunch more of this shit!
- Oh yes, without a doubt

Maybe or don't care(3) {Apathy is fun}

- Might as well...
- im bored so it really doesnt matter.
- Possibly.

Other (2)

- What -- no "most embarrassing moment" questions? Actually, it looks like less than half of these questions have anything to do with high school. Run out of ideas, Grog?! {Yeah, so wanna make somthing of it? Just trying to relive that HS attitude)
- Blue

Well, I'd like to thank everone who actually turned in a survey. Look for two other surveys in this issue. They are also on our website if you have access

WIN AN AUTOGRAPHED SPRING HEELED JACK POSTER

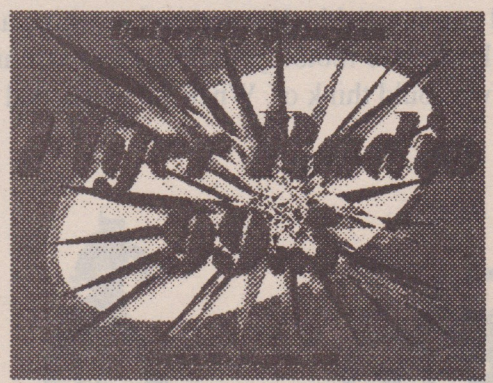
Yes, we're actually giving away something that somebody might want.

Here's how to enter: Send your name, address and email if you have one to the zine along with a description of Grog, Mite, Gail and Johnny Death. We will get together and pick our favorite. That person will win the poster and have their letter imortalized at MRZ headquarters and in MRZ #10. So do it now before you forget and some lame person wins. Send it to:

Mutant Renegade Contest
P.O. Box 3445
Dayton, OH 45401
or
Grog@Mutant-Renegade.com

Un-Authorized Advertisement

LISTEN TO



Several of us have been listening to them for quite a while and they really bring back memories of good college radio. No commercials and tons of music you won't hear on any other station. You can request songs by calling 229-2264.

PHARAOH LEVI

A BOY AND HIS BIKE

I recently came across a photo of myself. I was two and straddling the gas tank of my fathers supped up chopper. I guess that was my first experience with motorcycles. I first became aware of my fondness of motorcycles when I was eight and my brother got a dirt bike for his birthday. I suggested to my parents that I get one as well. They did away with my longing as only stern parents could do, they ignored me. After much persistence on my part they told me that I had to wait until I got older.

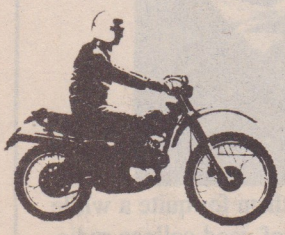
A few years later I reminded my parents of their promise of getting me a dirtbike. (By that time my brother had sold the one they got him). The promise somehow slipped my parents memory and they once again slew my want of a motorcycle, this time with a verbal spoonful of castor oil. Still the affliction kept resurfacing again and again, burning inside me, a small amber.

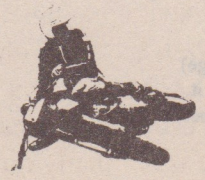
Being determined, a few years later I brought up the subject of getting a motorcycle once again. My parents tried to silence my tenaciouness with a gift that pretty much assured me that they would never get me a motorcycle. They got me a fucking moped.

I did have friends and relatives that had motorcycles. Most of my friends grew weary of their good fortune, while most of my relatives ended up in the hospital due to their haphazard riding abilities. Their was one time when I got to ride on one of my cousins dirtbike. I had been in the garage a few years, but with some work it started up and I was on my way. I quickly learned the reason why it was in storage for so long. While coming down a hill, approaching a busy crossroad I found out the brakes didn't work. I ended up having to lay the bike down and end my motorcycle riding for some time.

A little over a year ago, the motorcycle bug returned. It was put their by my wife, who had her own dirtbike when she was younger. Our desire fed off each other. I started burning inside. had chills, hot flashes. I was tired of fighting what I had longed for all my life. I no longer just had "The Bug", I had full blown fever. The need to own and ride MOTORCYCLES. And not only had I had it, my wife had it as well.

The need was insatiable. We grabbed anything and everything that we could dealing with motorcycles. We made daily stops to motorcycle dealerships around town just to look and ask the salesmen every annoying question we could think of. When we exhausted all the local dealers, we headed to other cities.

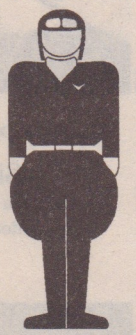




On weekends I would go to various video stores around town and rent any movie that remotely had motorcycles in them. The Wild One, Easy Rider, On Any Sunday and more were watched more than a few times. I learned my lesson of keeping video's well past their due date one afternoon while checking out yet another "biker flick" when the video clerk informed me (in front of a dozen other customers) that I had a $10 fine for turning in "Chopper Chicks in Zombietown" three days late.

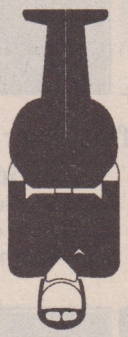
Being too embarrassed to go the video store for awhile, I started getting motorcycle books at the library. It was while reading these books that I became aware that I wasn't the only ones with a disturbing fascination with motorcycles. In his book "Hog Fever" Richard La Plante talks about his polishing obsession and need to look cool on his HOG. He also entertains with stories of freezing his ass off in the name of coolness, the almost humiliating position of having to ride "bitch", and "laying it down".

I found out that my longing for the freedom of the open road was also shared by many. The dream of a cross county road trip via motorcycle is wonderfully conveyed in the book Flaming Iguanas by Erika Lopez ((Simon & Schuster) (http://www.simonsays.com)). With her motorcycle gang of one, the heroine makes a trek from the East Coast to California and manages to survive despite the fact that she has never really ridden a motorcycle before. And In Ann Ferrar's book "Hear Me Roar"(Crown Trade Paperbacks) I saw a quote that conveyed how I most deeply felt about motorcycles.



"It's the blump-blump-blump of the engine. It goes with your heartbeat. Then there's the sound of the pipes. On one level, it gets down to real primitive stuff. On a conscious level, I have freedom waiting In my garage."

- Sandy Couture



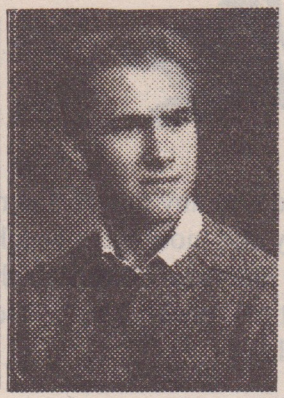
After reading so much about motorcycles, a breakthrough finally came when my wife called and informed me of a motorcycle riding safety course that was being offered. What was even more thrilling is that they let you use their bikes to take the class and then they let you use their bikes to take the test for your motorcycle license. The fact that I didn't own a bike didn't slow me down. I figured that I would get my license first and I would save up and get a bike In a year or so.

About a week after completing the course and getting my license, I got a call from my brother telling me that his neighbor had a bike for sale. Okay, maybe the house needed a new roof, but what else could I do. Besides a fresh rain water is good for house plants. So I got the bike, my wife got a bike and the original fire that burned within me all my life was finally quenched.

HIGH SCHOOL PICTURES OF LOCAL MUSICIANS AND SCENESTERS

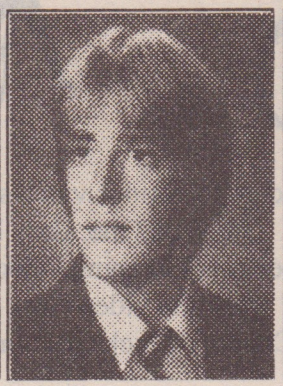
Keep in mind that most of these pictures are at least ten years old and that most people had no idea we were doing this....hahaha, but we figured if we are showing our pictures no one else can really say anything

Senior Picture of
Grog
(ex-Oxymorons)



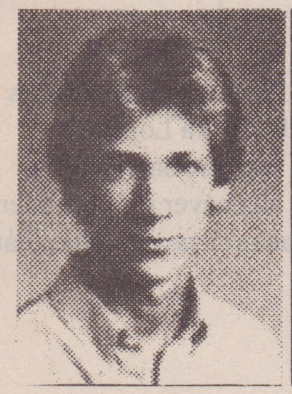
Senior Picture of
Mite

Senior Picture of
Gail

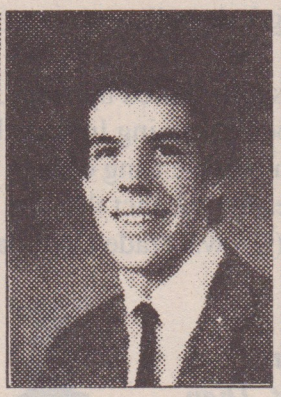


Senior Picture of
Jim McPherson
(Real Lulu, ex-Breeders, ex-Raging Mantras)

Senior Picture of
Ben Schelker
(ex-Ritalin Boy, ex-Candyass, ex-Oxymorons, ex-U-Dogs)



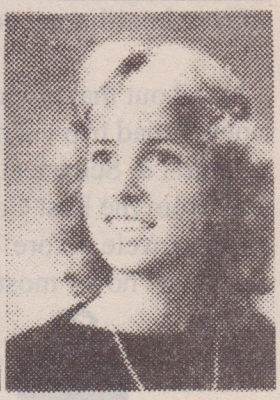
Sophomore Picture of
Nick Kizirnis
(Mulchmen, ex-Cage, ex-Raging Mantras, ex-Obvious)



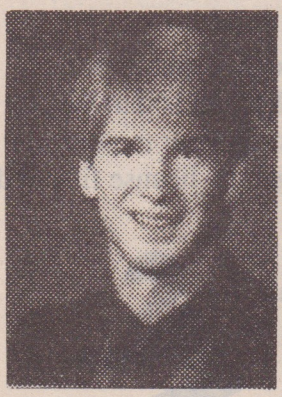
Senior Picture of
Eric Purtle
(Mondolux, ex-Mystery Addicts, ex-Minus One, ex-Dementia Precox)

Senior Picture of
Tim Taylor
(ex-Brainiac, ex-Wizbangs)

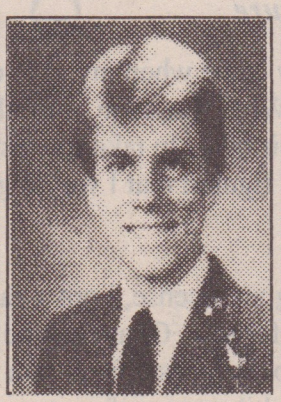
Senior Picture of
Gregg Spence
(Mulchmen, ex-Real Lulu, ex-Cage, ex-Mean Melissa, ex-Raging Mantras, ex-U-Dogs)



Senior Picture of
Sid
(Morella's Forest, ex-Rightous Anger)



Senior Picture of
Tim Arnold
(The Soulcasters)



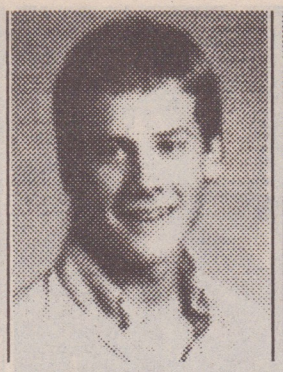
Senior Picture of
David Ponitz
(David Poe, ex-Glee&Beek, ex-Life&Times, ex-Scam)

Senior Picture of
Greg Reynolds
(ex-May Charm, ex-Summer Nations)

Senior Picture of
Rob Wagner
(Soundman at Canal Street Tavern)

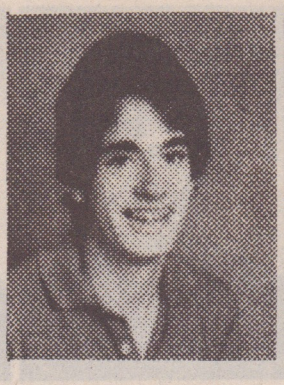
Sophomore Picture of
Shawn Johnson
(Morella's Forest, ex-Rightous Anger)

Senior Picture of
John Dubuc
(The Obvious)

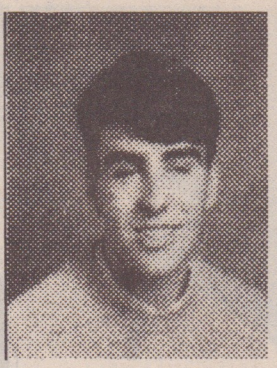


Senior Picture of
Greg Johnson
(ex-The Obvious)

Senior Picture of
John Mikula
(Let's Crash, ex-oo oo wa)



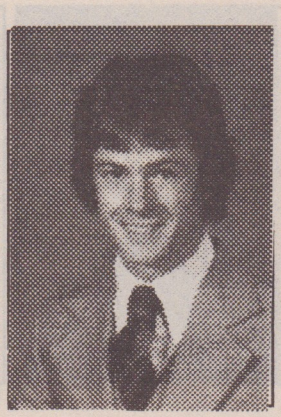
Junior Picture of
Will Dalgard
(ex-Planet Ed,
ex-Dobie Willis)



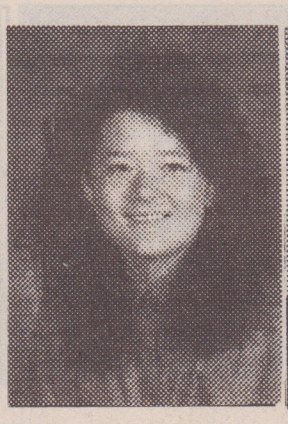
Junior Picture of
Francis Chris Pospisil
(ex-Gongkicker)

Sophomore Picture of
Jeff Mundy
(Captain Woody Crafter)

Senior Picture of
Alex North
(Salvador Deli)

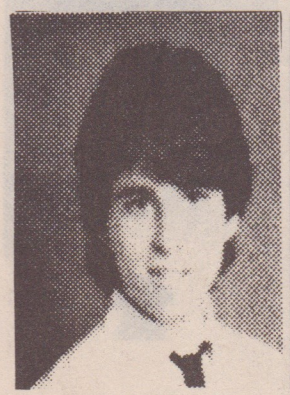


Senior Picture of
Glenn Perrine
(ex-Psychotic University,
ex-Wayouts, ex-From Behind,
ex-Drag Car Queen, ex-Silk
Screening Granddaddy, ex-the
Original Grandpaboy)



Sophomore Picture of
Teri S.
(Dayton Buzz Website Queen
& Local Scenester)

Senior Picture of
Leah Hoy
(ex-Pastures Green)



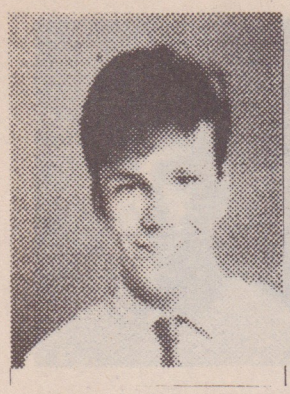
Senior Picture of
Morgan Taylor
(Mink, ex-oo oo wa,
ex-Glee&Beak,

Senior Picture of
Fen/ Daphne
(ex-Heike, ex-ColaVision)

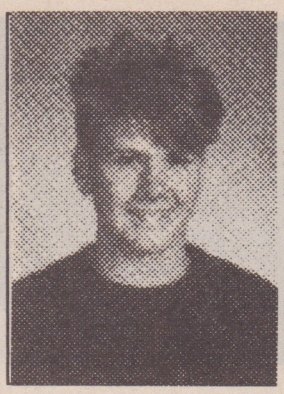
Senior Picture of
Patric Jones
(Heike, ex-ColaVison,
ex-Planet Ed, ex-Oxymorons,
ex-Fleshbats)

Senior Picture of
Andie Jones
(ex-Heike)

Junior Picture of
David Graeter
(Barnhills, ex-Larry Brrrds,
ex-ColaVision, ex-Planet Ed,
ex-Liquid Draino)



Senior Picture of
Nick Eddy
(Mink, ex-oo oo wa)



Sophomore Picture of
Jeremy Fredrick
(Let's Crash, ex-Cigarhead, ex-Sunken Giraffe)

Sophomore Picture of
Tyler Trent
(The Breeders, ex-Brainiac)

Senior Picture of
Chris Corn
(Colonel Bleep)

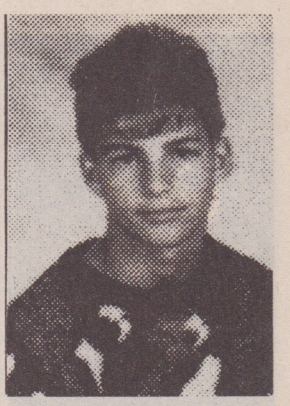
Junior Picture of
Dave Bernard
(ex-Naked Pinata)

Junior Picture of
Brain Bagadonus
(Kil Kare, ex-Pure Plastic Tree, ex-Liquid Darino)

Junior Picture of
Eric Bagadonus
(Kil Kare, ex-Larry Brrrds, ex-Pure Plastic Tree, ex-Liquid Draino)

Sophomore Picture of
Steve Johnson
(ex-Real Lulu, ex-Pure Plastic Tree)

Junior Picture of
Amy Meredith
(Occassional Promoter, Local Scenester)



Junior Picture of
Jeff Mundey
(Local Scenester)

Senior Picture of
Trista "Triscuit" Boone
(Poet in MRZ #3 & Local Scenester)

Senior Picture of
AndyAndy Hauge
(Local Scenester)

Senior Picture of
Phillip Hauge
(Local Scenester)

Senior Picture of
Keith Conley
(Local Scenester)

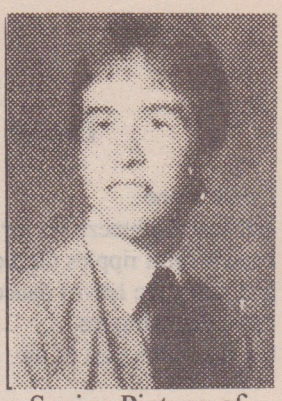
Junior Picture of
Tim "Bodean" Wyatt
(Local Scenester)

Senior Picture of
Rob Rosenbeck
(Local Scenester)

Senior Picture of
Ron Rosenbeck
(Local Scenester)

Sophomore Picture of
Eric Carmen
(Local Scenester)

Senior Picture of
Kim Roth
(Local Scenester)



Senior Picture of
Dan Harris
(Artist & Local Scenester)

Junior Picture of
dk (Dawnel)
(MRZ Artist & Local Scenester)

Senior Picture of
John Solimine
(Artist & Local Scenester)

Senior Picture of
Rod Austin
(Artist)

Senior Picture of
Tim Berger
(ex-No Boundries)

Freshman Picture of
Gnu
(Local Scenester)

MY HIGH SCHOOL REUNION

Yes, I actually went to my high school reunion a few years back. I had a few reasons for going: Fen had me go to hers so I felt like returning the favor (add maniacal laughter), I was curious to see how much people had changed (if any), I was feeling pretty good about my life and I hoped to find the few people who I actually liked in school.

The school I went to had a class of over 600 so I was expecting to see quite a few people. The first night was at a club house in an apartment complex. It was $10 for all the beer you could drink and snacks. There were about 300 people there and it reminded me of the old high school parties, except now everybody was legal and nobodies house was getting trashed. I was shocked by how old some of the people looked and by how some still looked and acted exactly the same. I saw several people who I was pretty good friends with, but few who I really hoped to see. I did end up telling off a few people who used to ignore me, but suddenly wanted to be chummy. For the most part it was pretty cool and I'm glad I went.

The second night was a different story. They held a dinner / dance at the Dayton Convention Center. I never went to any school dances, and now I know why. This reminded me of what a dance must have been like. The invitation said casual, but they stepped it up to semiformal and somehow I never got word. So, like usual I looked out of place and Fen was the only woman in pants. So, I ended up sitting with some of the "band fags" as we were known in school. At this function everybody broke off into their old cliques. I tried to talk to some of my acquaintances from the other cliques and they brushed me off like in high school, except now I talked back. After a while I realized it was a waste of time and energy. I saw a few people I liked but by and large I felt like the same outcast I did in school. A few trendy people were trying to talk about music and bands, but got confused by anything I said outside mainstream alternative. I think most people thought of me as the same shy, skinny geeky kid that I was in high school. Yes, some of us change but most of those bastards didn't. The last straw was when they played that damned macarena song.

I'd like to say a big FUCK OFF to most of the people I went to school with, but they'd never think to pick up this zine anyway. In fact I'm sure most of them don't think about anything beyond their basic needs and ideas which they came up with by age 20. If you did go to school with me and you're reading this, write or email me. You're most likely one of the people I liked.

POETRY

Decide

I walk alone
and feel the breeze on my shoulder.
I see it form ripples on the water
and make the leaves dance for me.
I feel the calmness,
but it is not a part of me.

I hear the voices
inside of me attack.
They bring out my fears,
my worries, my insecurities.
They mock me, doubt me,
and crush me.

I replay the memories.
So many good times.
Yet they bring sadness
at times like these.
I see the mistakes
but no solutions.

I see the cliff
high above the water.
The voices taunt me
telling me to let go.
But now is not the time,
I guess it never is.

kinlremis

---

dear Daddy,

Your ghost is in my head tonight,
photos of the wedding jammed in the album--
but none of us.
I am eviscerated by your disinterest,
ripped apart by stories of you and
Michael and your precious Jenni...
"but you ain't got time for me..."
i am you, you know..
your little cherokee grrl,
first born,
red hair like yours,
taste like yours,
bad poetry like yours,
but you never would believe, would you?
would you? would you?!?!
I wish I would've known what the test was for.
(as if poked and prodded, pinpricked
pierced veins, dripping blood could
possibly prove paternity other than yours)
I wish my sixmonth old fists could have
pounded your (already remarried for five
months and three weeks) face,
ripped your face,
and bloodied your hands,
the way mine were so many years later.
i wish...
i want to send you a copy of LIFE OF AGONY,
i want you to read The Father and cry,
i want you to suffer the loss of self.
i want you to know.
i am
your sweet little grrl,
sherrila

J'Reviens

It's harder to find the
eye shadow I have
always used. And my
favorite cologne -
J'Reviens - was that it?
Yes, it was. I wish I was
as beautiful now as
I was then. Son, you
don't understand.

janet kuypers

---

last before extinction

Now he has so many opportunities.
He has nothing to lose. Why not
come out of the wilderness, attack
everything it sees. Kill something.
Suck the blood out, make him feel
alive for once more. Let them try
to restrain him. He has nothing to lose.

And for now it can fly to the highest
redwood, look out over the world.
Despise the world, the world that made
him be alone, leaving him alone. Who
will carry his name? Who will care
for him when he is old? Who can he
read bed time stories to?

Now it can feel death creeping upon
him, closer and closer. He wants to
scream. He calls upon nature; the
tides rise, earthquakes shatter homes.
He does not feel vindicated. He has lost.

And for now she can swim to the deepest
darkest cave in the Pacific, hide from
the solitude, swim lower and lower;
can she find where all of the other
animals of dying species hide, can she
find them. There must be others. They
can understand, they can live together,
at the bottom of the earth. Could they
show their pain for their species, share
what is left of their love, create a new
race?

Soon they will be no more
and we will be taking their bones,
reassembling them, studying their
form, rebuilding their lives, revering
them more than we ever did
in life. This is what it all becomes.
This is what it all boils down to.
Study the bones. Study the mistakes.
Study the bones.

janet kuypers

Shout

You know,
you actually do
make me wanna shout.
And if I didn't know better,
I'd say that I have the capacity
to make you scream a little,
too.
You told me that you
have good hands.
I believed you, but I
didn't realize how good they were
until you showed me.
You know,
I'm not so bad myself.
Show me how good you are
again.

janet kuypers

POETRY

Paranoia

we sit here at dinner.
I try to breathe.
My hands rest on my thighs.
I must watch to be sure,
everything must be right:
the silverware, small fork,
large fork, plate, knife,
large spoon, small spoon.
Water glass. Wine glass.

I know no one else sees them:
the fish, the red fish, in
the curtains along the wall.
You have to watch them.
My eyes always glance there.

They are evil fish. They sit
in the curtains, they wait,
and then they come out.

And the yogurt, the yogurt
is the only thing that can
save me from them. throw
the yogurt, take a spoon,
use your hands.

And we sat there before
dinner, and he ate his
yogurt with his first spoon
before I could stop him.

How could you do this?
How can you save yourself from
the evil fish now? Will
I have to save you again,
do you even understand
the danger

janet kuypers

---

the playground

I walk to the playground.
I have to climb through a tiny winding path to get to it.
There are branches in the path scratching my legs.
They annoy me.
Maybe they wouldn't have bothered me if I were a child.
The playground is in the middle of an empty field.
Children are playing, making a lot of noise.
The swing set is full.
The grass around the playground is dead, probably from too many children jumping on it.
There are a few sparse weeds that manage to survive the children's abuse. They climb up the sides of the equipment on the playground.
You never notice the weeds, until they catch your eye once.
Then you always notice them.
The paint is chipping off the monkey bars.
No one is climbing on them;
one child is sitting on the top of the monkey bars, and he won't let anyone else climb up on them.
Two children are yelling at each other.
They are arguing over who gets to swing on the tire.
Another child is crying.
She said one of the boys stepped on her foot.
I turn around I can see a few buildings beyond the trees, past the clearing.
The grey one is the one where I work.
I have to go back soon.
I can see part of a sign at the building.
It used to say the name of the company on it, but the sign is worn and the paint is chipping.
But I know what it says.

janet kuypers

---

pocket knife

I saw you there
dancing
throwing her on the floor
like another one of your toys.
I had to pull out my army knife
and slit your face;
I had to watch the
blood stream from your open wounds
at the same speed as the apologies
that parted from your lips.
It was almost hard
to keep up with your show,
but I must admit
that it was good entertainment.

You know,
I still couldn't help but notice
that your pocket knife
was bigger than the one I bought
for myself.
An extra blade or two,
a better pair of tweezers.
And you were so proud
of your little gadgets,
and you were so sure
that it was a better pocket knife.
But I can't help but think
that not only does mine
do the job,
but it does the job well,
and because you never use yours
it's all just a waste.

janet kuypers

Forgiveness

In my silence I would love to forget
But restitution hasn't come quite yet
And with one accord I keep moving forth
I stretch my heart to heal some more
It used to be all I'd want to learn
Was wisdom trust and truth
But now all I really want to learn
Is forgiveness to you
As my seasons change
I've grown to know
When one's heart creates,
one's soul doesn't owe
So I wash away stains of yesterday
Then tempt my heart with loves display

Ed Rollins

No More

- No more will I keep my mouth shut when I am unhappy with the situation.
- No more will I give up on my dreams just to keep someone else happy.
- No more will I bow quickly just to keep conflict out of a relationship.
- No more will I cry thinking about what could have been.
- No more will I be afraid of my thoughts and ideas.
- No more will I try to ignore the hard questions.
- No more will I carry the pain of past regrets
- No more will I fear what other think of me
- No more will I mold myself to fit others
- No more will I sit in a well of self-pity
- No more will I be afraid to be alone
- No more will I hide my feelings
- No more will I doubt myself
- No more will I hate myself

I am me, I must accept it

kinlremis

Thanks to everybody who sends poetry in. But we still need more, so let your creative juices flow and send one in. If not you might someday be forced to read a whole page of Grog poetry, which is not a pretty thought...

LYRICS

I don't know about you, but I really love music. Many times I will play a song over and over whose lyrics reflect my mood at the moment, so that maybe I can gain a better understanding of my mood. This vague introduction being said here are some lyrics I've been into lately, make what you will of them...

CRYSTAL WRISTS

(by Peter Murphy)

I can's see the light
I'm thrown in disgust
They speak of feats
They housed forever
A howling wind
Changed my course
It blew me out
Of bounds so sore
All the walls
All the walls that bound me
Descending bleak and put upon

I chew my cheeks
To wake up from
The vase grows bigger
To my eyes
These eyes that snigger
And despise
The wall grows taller up to doom

Shoes in my room
Thrown in disgust
At how I fall
To my worst
Of course you say
You don't understand
Your words your fiction
Your crooked hands
But clearly now
I tell you man
That all I say
Is all I can
For I am nothing
But my sin
Until I learn
To caste them in

While young girls fangs
And crystal wrists
Wait patiently
For me to twist
I look away
To distant rains
To water falls
And honey days
And boys in black
And blue rinse eyes
Gaze whistly at my slender thighs

I twist a shade to my right
And spit on beelzebub on sight
And go on loving all I see
For here I live on patiently
Clearly now I tell you man
That all I say is all I can
For I am nothing but my sin
Until I learn to caste them in

MINK

(by Earwig)

Here I am, and now I'm wondering
Just where are you.
I've been waiting such a long time now
And you're not home.
I'll stay right here I know
I shouldn't worry
But I know what's going on.
And I need you now
I want you
So bad
Trying to get away

How will I tell the children now
That you were my loving one
How will I tell my children now
That you were my lover
How will I get along without you
When all I know is this one moment Now I want you to know
That I miss you so bad
Trying to get away

A LITTLE MURDER

(by The Buck Pets)

A thousand black bats are screamin' in my ears for blue eyes.
This hatred of mine is a new kind of motivation.
You want me in the dark forever.

Circumstances and your intentions
Make a joke about old suspicians
Circumstances and your intentions
Make a joke about old suspicians
Now it's gonna stay dark forever

Put a little passion in your style
A little murder in your smile

There's a difference in being alone and being lonely
Right now I don't wanna be by myself
I wanna have you over and over

As the radio whines we stare into a different direction
Sorry things couldn't be outta your way
I wanna have you over and over

Put a little passion in your style
A little murder in your smile

OLD HAT

(by Harvey Danger)

Call me disruptive
Say I break your concentration
Familiar pattern like the waves that break to fast
What do you do when it's so brand new that it kills you

Came on to strong
Couldn't stand it slow
But now I know
She can knock me back like a champ

Disembodied ringlets
From hair that looked like yours
Call me the looming shades
Of winter dust impending
She barely fits inside my head but I feel something
Every element but one is in my thoughts
Stop traffic as I lie down in your footpath
Like a similie I paint suggestive pictures of me and you

Disembodied ringlets
From hair that looks like yours
Call me the looming shapes
Of winter dust impending
Call me freaky
Call me childish
Call me Ishmial
Just call me back, call me back
Call me back and I'll follow you around

I forget what my friends look like
And they forget why they like me
But that's old hat
I'm so happy
How do you write about that?
How do you write about that.

(Part of) ONLY ONE

(by The Goo Goo Dolls)

Little pictures in my head
Turnin' inside out again
'Cause fuckin' up takes practice
I feel I'm well rehearsed
Because the past is a bully
And the future's even worse
Ya tell me what you fear
'Cause I can feel it like a curse

SUNBURN

(by Fuel)

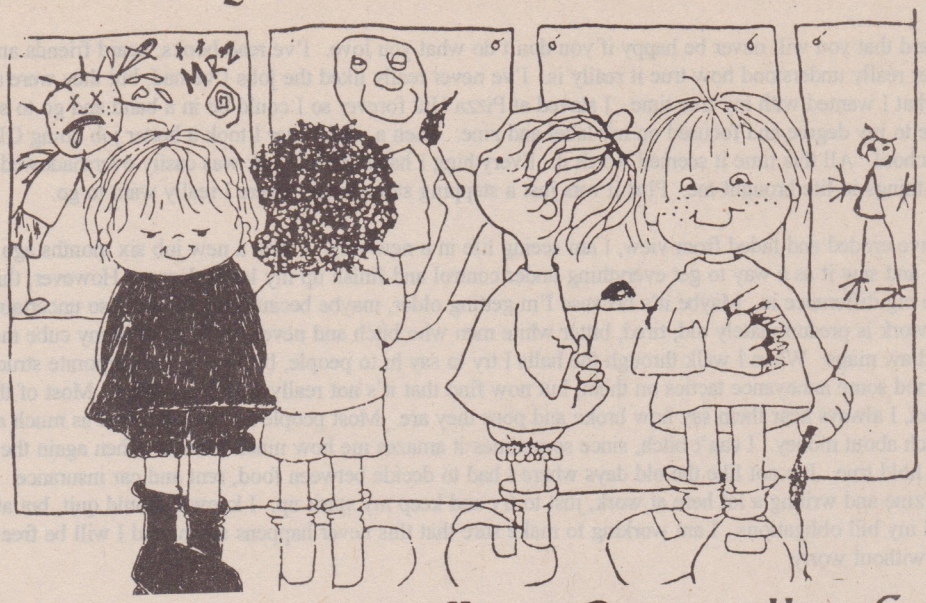
The sky was dark this morning
Not a bird in the trees
And silence hung suspicious and anxious
Like a blanket covered scream
And you were gone
You were not there for me
And I cursed he sky and begged the sun to
Fall over me

All my friends are searching
Quiet, desperately
Look into their eyes you'll see the faithless crying
Save me, save me, save me

And what they are to feel
And who they are to be
And what am I to do with, do with me,
But let the sun Fall all over me
This life's not living, baby
Living ain't free
If I can't find my way back to me
Let the sun fall over me
Let the sun fall down

Until my eyes cry out
'Til my head is free from doubt
'Til my lungs sigh right out
'Til I'm wiser

Do you stand out in a crowd?



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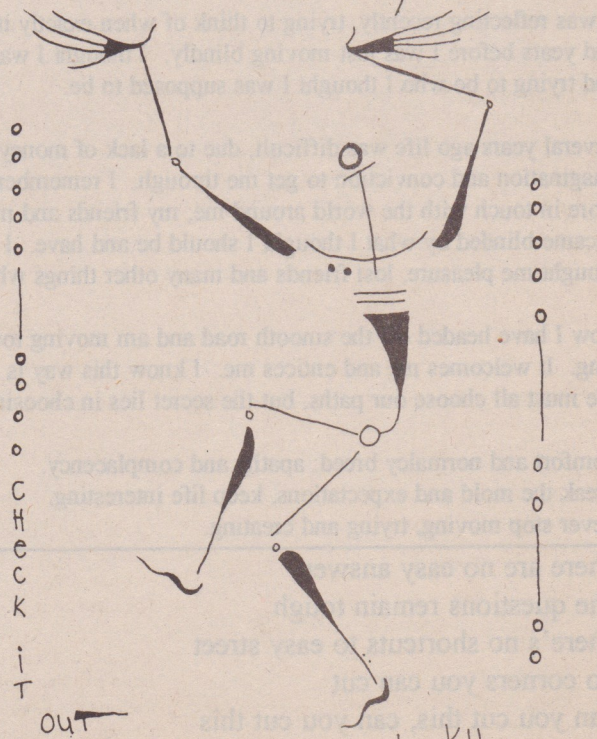

HOW A JOB CAN EAT YOUR SOUL

You know for years I had heard that you will never be happy if you don't do what you love. I've read books, heard friends and people I respect all say this, but I never really understood how true it really is. I've never really liked the jobs I've had, but they were always a way to bring in money while I did what I wanted with my free time. I slaved at Pizza Hut forever so I could be in a band and go to school. Later I got a job doing GIS work due to my degree and focused on my label and zine. Then a while later I took a better job doing GIS so we could buy a house and go back to school. All this time it seemed worth it. Everything I hated about work was easily overshadowed by how much fun and excitement the other things in life brought me. Plus it was just a stepping stone to get where I really want to go.

Now, since my old dreams have eroded and faded from view, I am seeing life in a new way. I took a new job six months ago for more money than I have ever made before and saw it as a way to get everything under control and finish up my latest degree. However, this job is draining my soul. I can't tell what the big difference is. Maybe it's because I'm getting older, maybe because my future is so uncertain, or maybe it really is this place. Where I work is predominately old, tired, bitter white men who bitch and never smile. I sit in my cube most of the day with my headphones on and draw maps. When I walk through the halls I try to say hi to people, but due to the corporate structure most just turn away from me. I have tried some annoyance tactics on them, but now find that it's not really worth my effort. Most of these people earn more than me, a lot more. Yet, I always hear them say how broke and poor they are. Most people I know earn half as much as these guys and they don't bitch nearly as much about money. I can't bitch, since sometimes it amazes me how much I make. Then again the more you make, the more you spend seems to hold true. It's not like the old days where I had to decide between food, rent and car insurance.
I find myself working on my zine and writing a lot here at work, just to try and keep my spirit up. I know I should quit, but at the moment I am trapped by the money and my bill obligations. I am working to make sure that this never happens again, and I will be free to take a low paying job (or start my own) without worry.

I really don't know how much longer I can stand this. I dread coming here everyday and keep trying to find ways to waste my time, yet still appear productive. It's easy since I'm a contract worker and I still get more done than the union guys who bullshit all day. I could talk with them but I'm not much for sports, degrading women and making racist jokes. I really have nothing to say to them other than bitch at them, which got old really quick. Now they avoid talking around me and I avoid them, except for the occasional jab. A few of the guys are ok for the most part, but they are clueless about anything other than sports and drinking.

Maybe it comes from reading Henry Rollins, but at times I sit here and think about cutting into my forearms. Not to kill myself, just for something to do and to watch them bleed. I guess it's a strange need for some kind of release. I also think about ways to destroy the building or just trash it. I try and call people, but with 40 hours a week, you can only talk so much when other people are busy. I'm sure a lot of things I do could get me fired and it really isn't bothering me much, which worries me.

I LOST IT

I was reflecting recently, trying to think of when exactly it was that I lost my way. I realized months ago that I had lost my way and years before I was just moving blindly. I thought I was heading in the right direction, but now I know I was lying to myself and trying to be who I thought I was supposed to be.

Several years ago life was difficult, due to a lack of money and resources. However, it was fuller since I relied more on my imagination and conviction to get me through. I remember those times very fondly regardless of the difficulties, because I was more in touch with the world around me, my friends and myself. Within the past several years I lost sight of all of that and became blinded by what I thought I should be and have. I grew older than my years and complacent, lost track of things that brought me pleasure, lost friends and many other things which meant a great deal to me.

Now I have headed off the smooth road and am moving towards the old path I once took that has not been tread upon for so long. It welcomes me and entices me. I know this way is less comfortable and a lot more treacherous but it is where I belong. We must all choose our paths, but the secret lies in choosing the one that is true to your inner self.

Comfort and normalcy breed: apathy and complacency.
Break the mold and expectations, keep life interesting.
Never stop moving, trying and creating.

There are no easy answers
The questions remain tough
There's no shortcuts to easy street
No corners you can cut
Can you cut this, can you cut this
God no, I'm in no rush
And it's good to see you're alive
A sign of your will, to survive
Now look into your heart
before it sees the final hour yet to take
Like there is no tomorrow
- David Pirner

yesterdays and used to be

yesterdays and used to be
from a long long time ago
take my faded memory
to a place that i used to go
we used to fly like we had wings
when we were easier to please
i loved you and you loved me
yesterdays and used to be

with just a mattress on the floor
in that place where we used to stay
you made me feel like i was more
than anything i've got today
we were kicking down all those doors
you were climbing up all those trees
before we started keeping score
yesterdays and used to be's

all i wanted was a little affection
all i wanted was you
all i wanted was a real connection
all i wanted was you

yesterdays and used to be's
from a long long time ago
take my faded memory
to a place that i used to know
we were never without our doubts
i try to look back honestly
but i swear we could have walked on clouds
yesterdays and used to be's
when i loved you and you loved me
yesterdays and used
to be

used to be.

- Todd Snider

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rocket fuel
buddy i'm runnin' on rocket fuel
flyin' high and feelin' cool
buddy i'm runnin'

my mom works
my dads gone
i skip school here all day long
burn my brains out singin' this song
doors wide open with the tv on

rocket fuel
rocket fuel
one more shot of that rocket fuel
i don't need work
i don't need school
i'm runnin' like a rocket!

down the road
way out there
no one waits because no one cares
red neck bottom of the corporate stairs
i'm gonna get my kicks
while i still don't care

rocket fuel
rocket fuel
one more shot of that rocket fuel
i don't need work
i don't need school
i'm runnin' like a rocket!

rock and roll
rock and roll
you don't care if i sell my soul
but
you move me like a holy roll
runnin' on rocket fuel
rocket fuel
rocket fuel
one more shot of that rocket fuel
i don't need work
i don't need school
i'm runnin' like a rocket

- Todd Snider

Smokin' in the Alcove

by Timothy Kevin Perry

I always hated Coach Sheist. He was the hoarse voiced, crewcut wearing coach of St. Cacti De Cunni High School. It was a place world renowned for its Football. Or shall I say "FOOBALL FOOBALL FOOBALL!" I was a renegade punk freak having to go to school with a bunch of very wealthy clean cut preppie boys who lifted weights and took copious amounts of steroids (coach prescribed). The ones who would shake their heads in great disapproval about the "taking of drugs". That "taking of drugs" which was the sole province of wild degenerate "losers without portfolio". I belonged to the Outcast Group. We were regularly carpooled to school by an unsuspecting assistant Coach, let's call him Coach Gonad. He was a stupid piece of culturally brainwashed All-American loving excrement who actually looked like a miniature of Coach Sheist. Anyway, after he let us off at the front door, we'd pretend to go inside. But then we'd sneak back into the adjoining cove of the nearby St. Cocteau DeCunni's church. It was on the side, actually, the side-back door of the temple, where we huddled together beneath the shadows of a circle of evergreen trees, trying our best to act inconspicuous. Thus the spiritual bonding ritual began. Twenty minutes till first bell. Just enough time for several quick joints amongst friends. Unspoken rule of protocol insisted that each member contribute a couple joints of his own very hard-earned ever precious stash in intervals. It wouldn't do for someone to be a stingy freeloading bastard. Just wouldn't do. One could get away with not bringing in his own for maybe a week. Possibly even a week and a half. Any more than that, one would be considered testing the limits of comraderly Gemutlichkeit.

The particular day of Reckoning I remember quite well. A small, seedy, black haired freak named Johnny Haas would usually have the best stuff. This time, he shocked us all with some killer hash. And it was REAL HASH TOO. Taking out a pipe, he warned us with a wicked smile. "This is real shit, man. One hit megablaster. Comes all the way from Canada. They call it Number One. It's such incredible smoke it'll blow your balls off if you don't watch out. It's creeper."

"Creeper," we said to each other in awe. After lighting it, we started taking hits. I can only remember my third hit when the world began to spin. The warning bell preceding the first bell rang out. It burst through my eardrums. My arms and legs felt wobbly, yet uncanningly infused with a new exhilarating fluid power. I started entering a very thrilling expansion of consciousness. Sharp acute sentience exploded within my sixteen yearold body.

"COME ON MAN! LET'S BOOK!" We began stumbling across the grass to the back doors of Cocteau De Cunni. Then we dispersed from each other as fast as cockroaches avoiding an expected blast of DeConn. We could not be seen entering the hallowed halls of DeCunni as if we were an intentional band of drug taking ne'er-do-wells. Everyone hurtled in different directions to their respective lockers and homerooms. I had trouble unlocking my locker. Its blue metric lined face jumped out at me in extreme vividness. "Let's seeuh...thirty-four..twenty-three..no...twenty four...thirty six...." Even though I must've unlocked it a hundred thousand times. Opening the lock, I groped for my academic paraphernalia. If I moved fast, I could make it into Mr. Wiener's homeroom right as first bell was ringing out. I did.

I sat down right as the last bar of RIII

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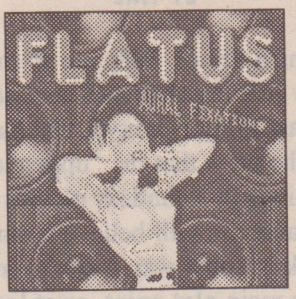
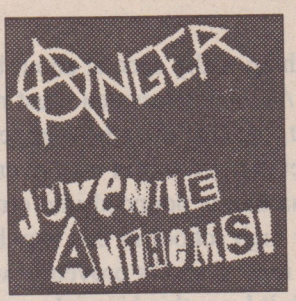


Muddle Fanzine Sez: "FLATUS is punk rock, end of story." The band has remained a staple in the East Coast pop-punk scene for nearly a decade.

anger juvenile anthems



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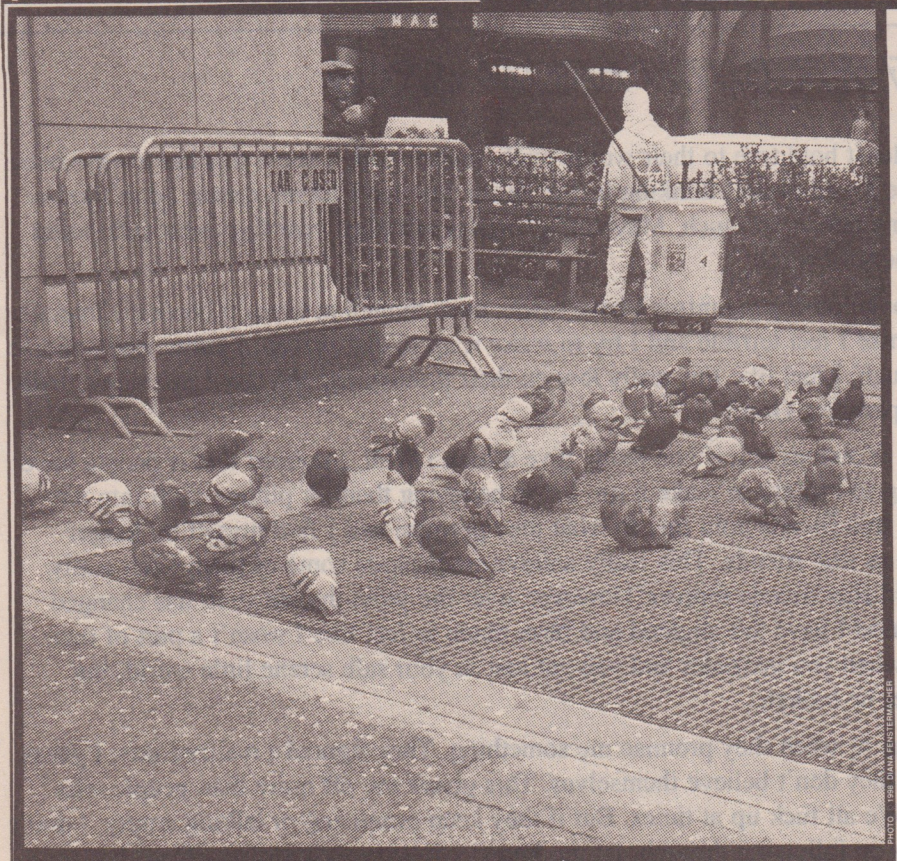

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A School Paper Rant

BY HAL

To me, there's nothing really special about being a senior. Why are so many people like, "Oh God, oh God, oh God, I'm a senior now. All underclassmen must now lick my shoe and bow down to me."? Actually, I don't even think people are like that, but that the whole upperclass thing is a myth that lasts for the first week of school, then hastily makes its exit to let the real world take over. The view that the "upperclassmen" are better than the "underclassmen" is simply an enigma that is pounded into out minds by countless movies and television shows that are about high school. They show high school in this way because we will believe it, and also because it has already been institutionalized in other media, and is proven to work in some way. I can't remember a show that involved high school in some way, and didn't have this hierarchy as the main plot point, or at least having a major affect on the plot point. This view of high school is as old and outdated as the belief that the football players only date cheerleaders and that all jocks beat up on all nerds, who carry pocket protectors in the breast pockets of their retch green vests. It's time we realize that the only thing that separates the senior class from the others is that the seniors will not be here next year and that they are also allowed to skip the final week or so of school. Whoopie, let's party! Break out the Stephen Wright tapes - audio tapes! We're gonna party like it's a class breakfast, so . . . oh wait, no one showed up to those.

Oh well. I am, however, not completely cynical, as I am looking forward to graduation. This is the one time that seniors are allowed to feel better about themselves, because it's so symbolic of how everything is changing in your life. In a few months, most of you will be on your own at college (majoring in beer with a minor in booze) or elsewhere. I'm looking forward to getting on that stage, getting that diploma, and getting that handshake from that Mr. Dickoff. I wonder who our speaker will be. I hope they'll be more interesting than last year's speaker, the mafia writer. The only excitement there was the fact that they couldn't announce who he was because there was allegedly a hit out on him. Wouldn't that have been a great send off, the speaker being shot during his speech. How could the speaker this year ever top that? It would certainly be a tough act to follow. People would say, "Well, I like what he said, but where's the drama and action? He didn't even get a flesh wound."

ANOTHER BITCH FROM GROG

I've noticed that lately that people who don't hold true to their words really piss me off. I know this has always been true, but over the last several years I have found myself thinking less of those who have let me down. I don't know why this had suddenly started to get on my nerves so much. Maybe it's because after last year I've been examining my life closely and trying to see how others view me.

I know I have always tried to follow through on any promises I have made, even though at times it becomes impossible. If I have failed to live up to a promise I feel terrible and I try to make it up to that person. I know when people promise me things and don't follow through, I feel like I'm really low on their priority list and that I just don't really matter to them. (Ahhhhhhhhhhhhh, pity party for Grog)

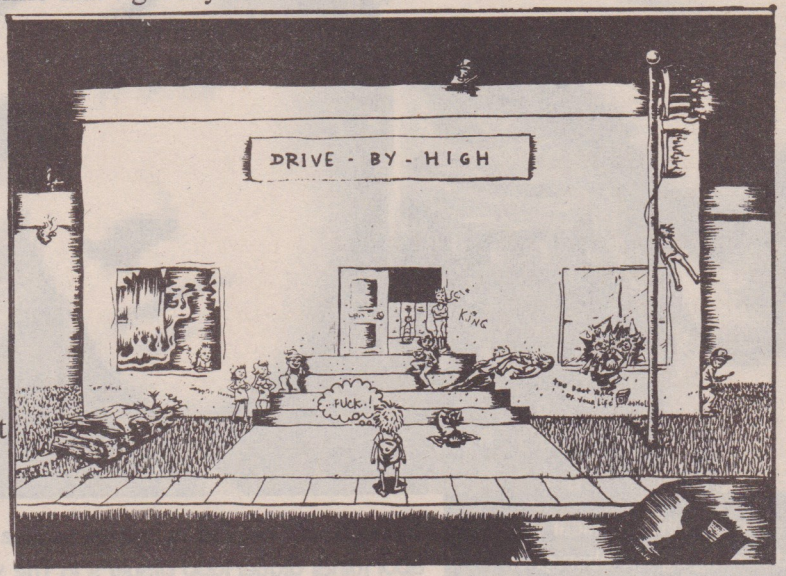
So, what have I started to do about this? (You may ask if you really give a fuck.) Well, I noticed that if people have let me down once or twice, without trying to explain or make it up, I stop believing them or putting faith into anything they tell me. I feel that most of my true friends hold true to what they promise and I find myself no longer considering those who have let me down as true friends. This really annoys me because some of them I felt really close to and years ago I thought we would stay friends forever. However, over the years the situation has changed and drifting has occurred. During this period I have felt slighted and been made to feel like I wasn't a part of their life anymore. I know that things change when you get older and you get lost in your safe serene little world, but promises shouldn't be made that will later be broken.

I have found that many people don't mean it, when they promise me something. They figured I realized this. I guess I really should stop believing them since they don't believe themselves. This pisses me off more than people who had good intentions, but just fucked up. We all fuck up at times. But if they keep promising or talking empty, I don't see any excuse. If you can't or don't plan on following through, let me know!

Ok, I think I'm done being all fuckin' high-n-mighty. I have some promises to keep...

High School Sucked

I just loved high school Yeah right. I was a loser, a loner, and a freak. In our school newspaper (the special 1987 Senior Edition) they listed what people were going to be in the future, for me they put "rebel of society". Yes, I did have some friends. But now I think about it, they seemed to be my friends around the time that I got my car and seemed to fade away when they got one. Well anyway I never really fit in with them, which goes to show why I haven't really talked to anybody I graduated with from high school for over 10 years.



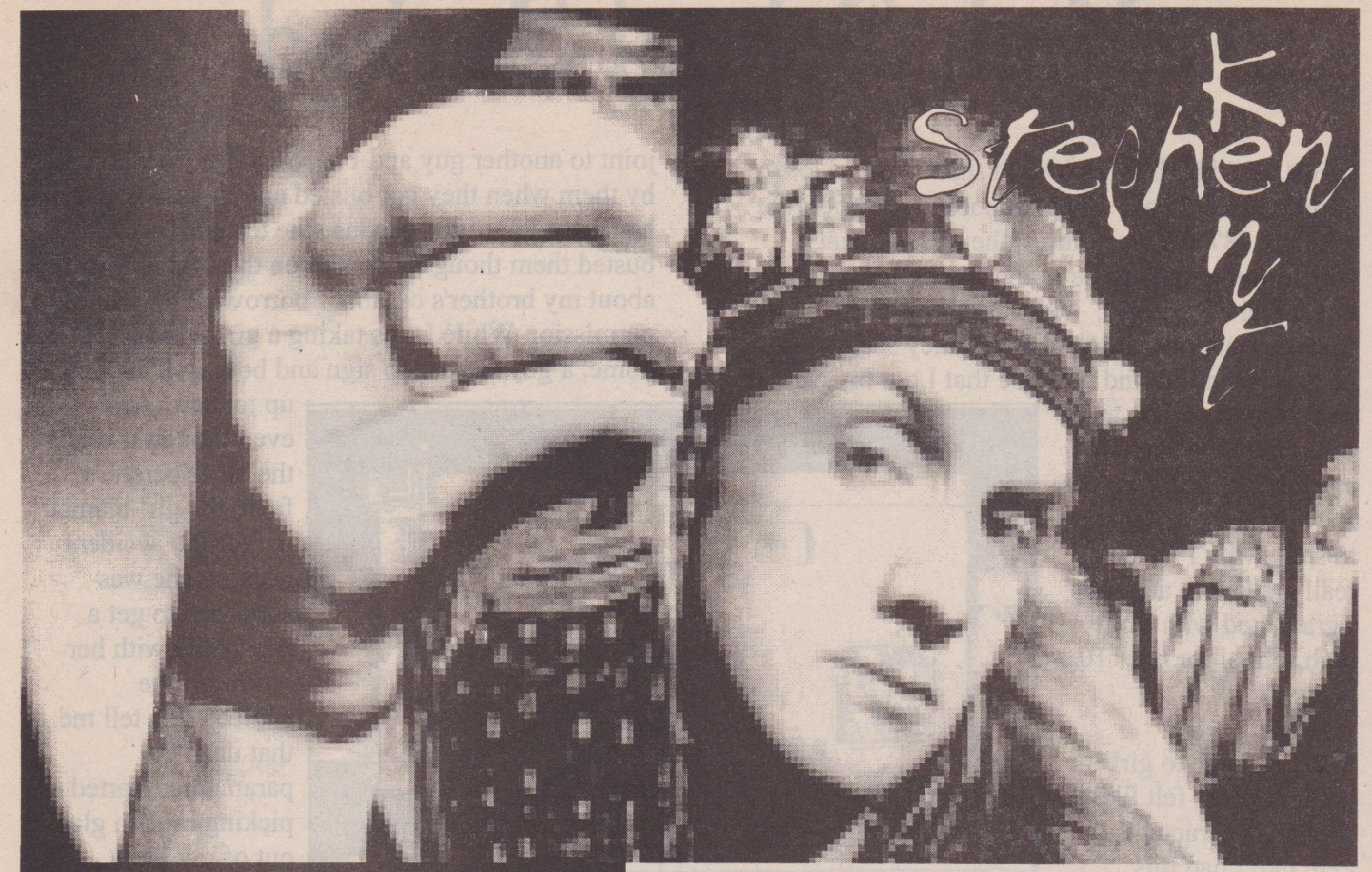
When it came to girls in high school, I felt like that Peanuts character Pig Pen, like I had this invisible dust cloud around me that kept them from wanting to be near me. And the girls that I did manage to go out with were more like "let's fuck with his head, chew him up and treat him like dirt" demons. During my first high school dance, the girl I was suppose to go with broke our date by telling me that her mom was making her baby sit. However I did see her going to the dance with someone else. Thus began the pattern of girls lying to me before they fucked me over.

And yeah I'm the one who said that I was saving myself for someone who would actually have sex with me in the high school survey. It also seemed like the girls that I did go out on a date with were always saving themselves for the person they went out with after me. I still believe that the first girl I managed to have sex with was high on crack at the time.

Still there were good times. Like when I got so drunk the night before a big cross country meet that I puked all over the place during the race. And there was a time when a guy was selling a joint to another guy and I happened to be walking by them when they got busted and my ass got hauled to the office because the teacher who busted them thought I was in on the deal. Or what about my brother's car that I borrowed without his permission While I was taking a girl that I liked home, a guy ran a stop sign and both cars ended up totaled. And even though it was the other person's fault, the girl blamed me for the accident because she was supposed to get a ride home with her brother. (She neglected to tell me that until the paramedics started picking broken glass out of my face).

There were some cool things I do have to admit. There was the teacher that was in a nationally know bluegrass band "The Dry Branch Fire Squad". They're actually pretty cool. There was another teacher that was into bands like "Black Flag", "The Minute Men" , "The Dead Kennedy's" , etc… and he would bring them in for us to listen to.

But Over all it did really suck. I remember when people use to tell me to enjoy high school because it was going to be the best years of my life. Thank god they were wrong. However, for a lot of people I think that it was true. When I go home for visits and see all the people who were the popular dicks in high school still living at home with their parents I get a shitty grin on my face. I may still be a loser, but at least I'm not as big of a loser as they turned out to be.



The Didgeridoo is a long, slightly conical wooden trumpet or horn, used traditionally by the aboriginal people of Northern Australia. Aboriginal men select a branch of from a tree which has been hollowed out by termites. Different pitches are achieved by cutting the branches at various lengths and by finding branches with various diameters. They strip the bark and a mouthpiece is is created by applying a coat of beeswax at the smaller end of the branch. The patterns representing totemic and clan designs are exclusively the property of the artist. Other names for the Didgeridoo are Yidaki, Kanbi, and Ihambilbilg.

Rock paintings on caves have established that the Didgeridoo has been used as a musical instrument for at least 20,000 years. Traditional Aborigine folklore has it that the didgeridoo has been around since the beginning of time.

The Didgeridoo is not a Churinga or sacred object – Churingas are talked about in hushed tones and may only be seen by certain members of the community at certain ceremonies. The Didj may be involved in these ceremonies but in and of itself is not sacred. For the Yirritja of NE Arnhem Land, the Yirraki (Yidaki, Didj) is a percussion instrument used to accompany singing and clapsticks. The Didgeridoo's deep resonating rhythms have a power that draws upon your own spirituality.

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Stephen Kent is known as one of the foremost non-aboriginal didgeridoo players in the world. With his solo release "Landing" Stephen brought the didgeridoo, known mostly as a drone instrument, to the forefront as a primary musical instrument that could drive a composition as well as support it. While maintaining an uncompromising integrity and respect for the didgeridoo and the spirituality of music in general, Stephen has forged a non-traditional style, which is best described as ethno-ambient world.

Stephen introduced people to the deeper qualities of this intense instrument with his solo album and has since broken all boundaries with his musical styling on the didgeridoo and an array of other instruments. Stephens musical genius also shines on releases by Lights in a Fat City, Trance Mission and Beasts of Paradise, all bands in which he plays an important part.

I had the opportunity to speak with Stephen a few years back on the heals of the Beast of Paradises release "Nobody Knew the Time". Since then, Stephen has toured extensively with his band transmission, had a child with his wife Eda Maxym (who is the lead voice for Beast of Paradise), and has loaned his musical talent to many other musicians in the San Francisco Bay area.

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MRZ- I've heard that you use to play music in a circus.

SK – I was appointed as musical director of a circus company in Australia in 1981, that was called circus OZ and it was a circus without animals ssentially. It was more like a political theatergroup parading as a circus, and it was that connection , working with that group, which lead to me playingthe didgeridoo.

MRZ – Even though you are a multi-instrumentalist, you are recognized best for your expertise on the didgeridoo. How did you end up with that instrument?

SK – I guess what happened to me was as soon as I arrived in Australia, I realized that there was a power to the land that was not really being recognized by the Western culture which pretty much occupies the outer limits of the Australian continent, the coastal regions. And coming from Europe which is pretty much built into the ground, deep into the earth, it seemed to me faintly ludicrous to see all these buildings perched on top of this enormous continent that appeared to be pulsating with a much deeper vibration and in the work that I did in the circus I determined that I would like to reflect some of that quality in the music of the show. I actually heard the didgeridoo played fairly early on in my time in Australia and I was a brass player at the time, I was trained as a French horn player. I fascinated by the sound of the didgeridoo and tried to check out what it would be like if I learned the circular breathing technique on brass instruments. And applied didgeridoo styles but played on brass instruments to the trapeze and some of the more spectacular parts of the show. So what I did was ended up developing that style and composing music for tuba and for sousaphone as a foundation that sounds very much like the didgeridoo. In fact if you listen to track #2 on my c.d. *Landing* it has a tuba playing the didgeridoo part. Although you would think it was a didgeridoo. I have to say that there is a didgeridoo on that track too, but the tuba is holding the didgeridoo line as well, it changes the note.

What actually got me into playing the didgeridoo is, after a couple of years of working in the circus, I gravitated more and more towards understanding something deeper about the Australian Aboriginal culture. I left the circus to go traveling and spent time in the center of Australia and up in the Northern territory staying on some aboriginal settlements and feeling the land which was really the big teacher. The land is the teacher. The aboriginal people in Australia are similar to the Native American Indian people believe that they belong to the earth, the earth belongs to no body. And a lot of the culture is learnt by contact with the earth itself. So for me, my experiences in the desert and very much out in the bush over a period of time spoke very deeply to me and I found myself beginning to play the didgeridoo at that time. And that's been something that I have been developing ever since. That was 1983.

MRZ – You mention the circular breathing technique, what exactly is that?

SK – It's kind of tricky to explain because it really requires a visual, but circular breathing is the ability to maintain sound for a long time without apparently breathing. You don't stop for breath. Anyway, what happens is you manage to push air out of your mouth at the same time as taking a sniff in through your nose. So you maintain sound. It's almost like your cheeks become the bag of a bagpipe at that moment that you breath in through your nose and so a good didgeridoo player can continue playing without a break for hours literally. It's also a technique that's used widely in jazz music. A lot of jazz horn players use circular breathing. Roland Kirk is one example. Archie Sharp is another one that I'm aware of, Evan Parker. There are many horn players that do it. Also if you listen to music from different cultures, the music of Tibet again is widely utilizes circular breathing as do many of the Islamic cultures that play wind instruments.

MRZ – One of the groups you're in, Transmission, is composed of Kenneth Newby, who also is in the group Lights in a Fat City with you, John Loose and Beth Custer, who is also in the group Clubfoot Orchestra. The members are from England, Canada, New Hampshire and New York. How did you end up hooking together.

SK – I was touring initially in the States in 1991 with Lights in a Fat City and Kenneth Newby, a Canadian, had joined the group for that tour. At the end of that time in late 1991 I decided to settle in the San Francisco Bay area and I met up with Beth Custer who I did some improvised performances with. And invited John Loose in, he's the main percussionist in the group, specializing in frame drums and basically hand drums and techniques of drumming from south India and North Africa, Middle Eastern styles.

We began playing as a trio, but it felt to me that it was something was missing that could be added to and the connection that was made with Kenneth was so powerful that we invited him into Transmission, that pretty much sealed the deal. His techniques are fairly phenomenal. He has a lot of experience in music, in Indonesian particularly having lived several years in Bali and Java.

Kenneth adds a very different type of taste to the music that we play and it's been an interesting project to date. Our first album, which was simply called *Transmission* came out last year and I think it really documents the meeting of

the four of us. It's pretty much a live recording, using the acoustic instruments to the full extent. However *Meanwhile*, our new c.d. that come out about a month ago is a much more studio orientated project and is much more layered. We all get a chance to play more of the different instruments. I play some cello on there, I play a lot of percussion, as well as a battery of didgeridoos. We actually worked in the studio much more to produce Meanwhile, which was actually produced by Simon Tassano, who's an original member of Lights in a Fat City. It's really kind of like a marriage of all the directions I have been working with over the last 5 or 6 years.

MRZ – With all influence from the different band members, how does the group go about composing a song? Does they develop out of jam sessions?

SK – Yes, essentially. The basis of this band has always been improvisation. We come together with rudimentary ideas from one or two people and jam around with them. It's a very consentual process of composition. There's not a single piece on this new album where all the ideas came from one person. For me the interest in this kind of work and in the majority of the music that I played over the last ten years or so has been that kind of conversational basis. It's not simply somebody comes in and directs a piece, all though we do occasionally have one person taking a little more of the lead than others in pieces. It's very much a process of deliberation and consultation between the four of us. We also bring in other people, such as Eda Maxym, who's a vocalist.

MRZ – Tell me about the video that you are working on that's described as technowave psychedelic?

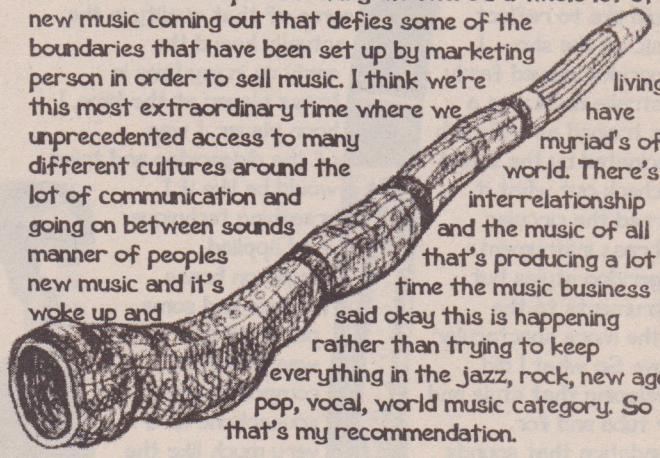
SK – Well we have made a short video to go with one of the pieces. Actually off our first c.d. that's being re-released on a compilation by our label, *City of Tribes*, called *Event Horizon*. Along with some new unreleased Lights in a Fat City and pieces by some different members of the ensemble of musicians. It's kind of a family of musicians who form the record label. SO there's a lot of different people working with each other's project. SO far I'm not really sure that that video got out into the world, we're working on getting that promoted out into the TV land out there. But it's hard for small independent labels to break into the monopoly situation of ... well MTV is the extreme, but I don't suppose we'd be shown on there. But keep your eyes open.

MRZ – What other projects are you working on?

SK – There's one other band that I'm working on, it's called Beast of Paradise, and this is much more of a vocally orientated group. It features the singing of my wife, Eda Maxym, who also is on the new Transmission c.d. and also on my *Landing* c.d. And Beast of Paradise is a group that has as it's fundamental line-up, orchestral harp, voice, a kind of tableau and hand drums, upright bass and didgeridoo. And they just came out with a sort of mini c.d., a 5-track c.d. *Nobody Knew the Time* on *City of Tribes*. And I'm very excited by the direction of this group. It moves more into more of a folk region of sound than anything that I've worked on before.

And I'm currently working with Kenneth Newby on a new project which is going to be more in the realm of the ambient dancing but using more of the acoustic sound as the foundation. It's just in the early phase of development, so we have to wait to see where that goes.

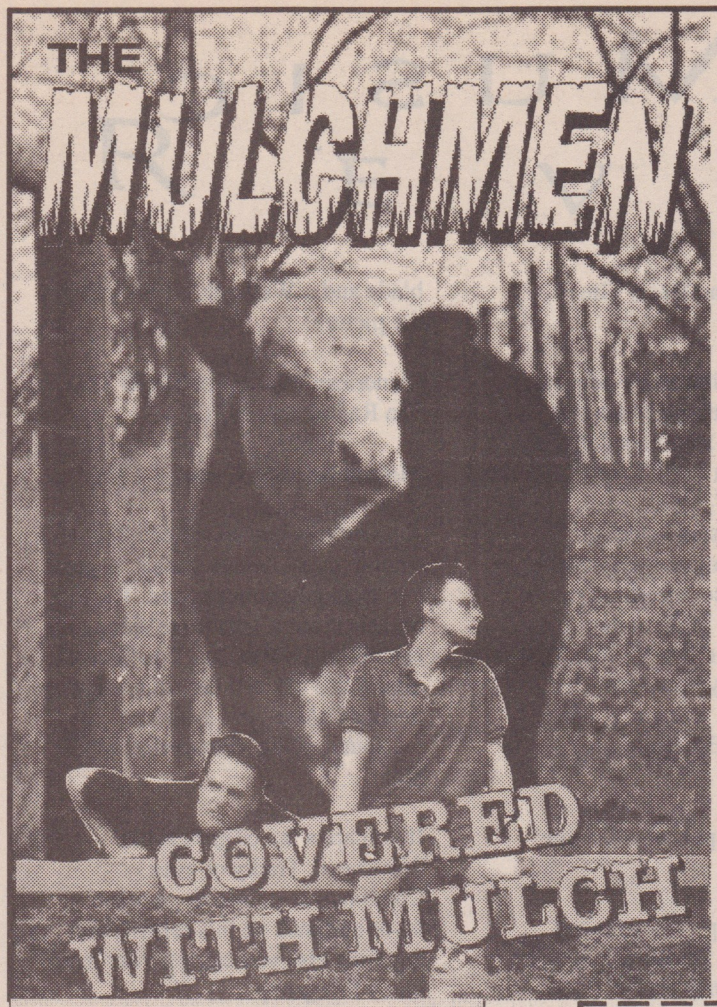
There's been a difficulty with a definition of this kind of music. Whenever we play out there people go wild, we just played some gigs up in the Northwest and it's wonderful to see thousands of people jumping up and Down to our music. There's still a lot of convincing to be done in terms of people who run the ropes of the music business, because they really don't know what to call the music we play. It's doesn't fall easily into any of the defined categories the music business has at it's disposal currently. I think that's something that requires looking at. There's a whole lot of new music coming out that defies some of the boundaries that have been set up by marketing person in order to sell music. I think we're living in this most extraordinary time where we have unprecedented access to many myriad's of different cultures around the world. There's a lot of communication and interrelationship going on between sounds and the music of all manner of peoples that's producing a lot of new music and it's time the music business woke up and said okay this is happening rather than trying to keep everything in the jazz, rock, new age, pop, vocal, world music category. So that's my recommendation.



For more information on *Stephen Kent*, *Transmission*, *Lights in a Fat City*, or *Beast of Paradise* please write to:

City of Tribes
3025 17th Street
San Francisco, Ca 94110

http://www.cot.com
e-mail: citrpm@dnai.com



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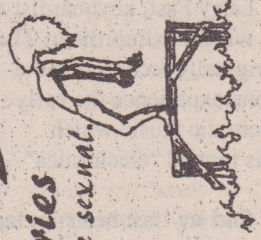

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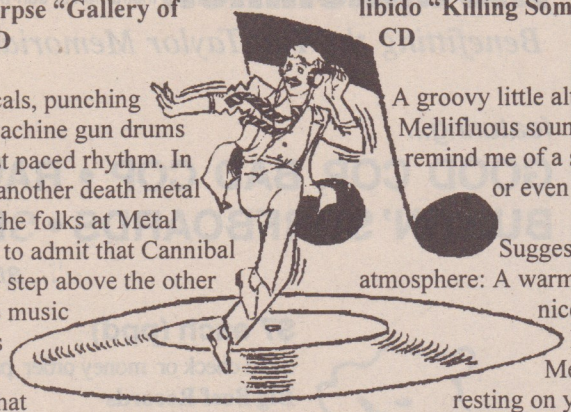
MITES MUSIC REVIEWS

Cannibal Corpse "Gallery of Suicide" - CD



Growling vocals, punching guitars and machine gun drums all set to a fast paced rhythm. In other words, another death metal release from the folks at Metal Blade. I have to admit that Cannibal Corpse is one step above the other groups in this music genre, but it's still the same old formula that has been around in death metal for the last ten years. Let's see Cannibal Corpse does Bach, that would be something to write about.

(Metal Blade Records)

Synergy "Electronic Realizations for Rock Orchestra", "Sequencer", "Cords" - CD

Synergy is Larry Fast, keyboardist and electronics wizard extraordinar. These releases, originally recorded in the 70's, let's one experience the early days of electronic music which nowadays is termed "electronica".

You won't find any fast beats; in fact there's no percussion at all. Just pure keyboard instrumentals from one of the originators of electronic music.

These c.d.'s are the first three of many of his early albums that he plans to re-release on c.d. You can read more about Larry in the next issue of MRZ.

(Third Contact, PO Box , Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922)

Iodine "Baby Grand" - CD

The first thing that came into my head when I first listened to this c.d. is that they reminded me of the band **The Toll**. Basic rock guitar stuff.

(Sol 3, 45 Orchard St., Suite GWF, NY, NY 10002)

libido "Killing Some Dead Time" - CD

A groovy little alternative pop trio. Mellifluous sounding songs that remind me of a smoother Jellyfish or even Redd Kross.

Suggested listening atmosphere: A warm fuzzy day with a nice refreshing can of Modern day Mellow Yello resting on your tummy.

(Fire Records, 740 Broadway, NY, NY 10003)

The Saboteurs "Espionage Garage" - CD

Surf pop spaghetti spy trio who call Japan home. A nice sounding c.d. that has a steady slow surfy sound. Lacks the bite that local surf band The Mulchmen has me accustomed to, but a good listen none-the-less.

(American Pop Project, POB 2271, San Rafael, CA 94912)

Various Artist "Japan Punk Kills You" - CD

Excellent! Superb! I'm talking kick ass! This compilation from our fellow punks from the big island of Japan is one of the best punk comps that I have ever heard in a long while. The classic punk sounding ditty "Temptation" by **Bug Sneakers** had me doing the pogo. The pop punk outfit **Cruller** and the Ramones sounding **Marquees** had me slam dancing into the walls. The straight ahead rockin' **Nails of Hawaiian** had me smearing peanut butter on my body and taking a razor blade and... Well, um I think you get the picture.

(American Pop Project, POB 2271, San Rafael, CA 94912)

Morcheba "Big Calm" - CD

A sweet trip-hop sound coupled with smooth jazzy female vocals. A great c.d. from beginning to end. They've branched out a little more since their last release "Who Can You Trust?" giving this c.d. a fuller sound. Put on this c.d., close your eyes, and enjoy the sound of the most perfect sky at night.

If you are a fan of groups like Portishead, Tricky or even Combustible Edison do yourself a favor and pick up this release, and anything else you can get your hands on by this group.

(Sire Records)

Lenny Kravitz "5" - CD

Lenny rocks out on this c.d. The only problem is that we've heard it all before. A very commercial release specifically to make a quick buck from the ditsy people who still think that MTV is hip.

All I can say is Lenny, Lenny, Lenny, Lenny. . . . Try something new next time or at least wait 15 years before you put out another release. It will be the fresh new retro sound then and you would probably take the world by storm. Right now you should be getting together with Squiggy and do a Lavern and Shirley reunion show. That's retro right now.

(Virgin Records)

MitesMusic Reviews

Whale "All Disco Dance Must End In Broken Bones"

A trip-hop, rap, hip dance, punked out release all in one. I've been playing this wonderful find on my cd player ever since I got it and I can't stop. In fact it killed one of my cd players. The angelic voice of the Devil's daughter herself combined with Groovin' Bass Lines, Disco drums and straight ahead guitar are reaches deep within the listeners brain and twist it around.. On **Smoke** the sweet voice is interrupted by a cancerous growl, and I would swear that the spirit of **Brainiac's Tim Taylor** was present when **Whale** recorded **Losing CTRL**. Other standouts include the rappin' **Four Big Speakers**, the punked out **Hidden Song** and the upmost good time feelin' **Deliver The Juice**. If you liked **Hobo Humpin' Slobbo Babe**, then this disk is a must. **-mite**

www.virginrecords.com

Beausoleil " Amour ou la Folie"

I've been a fan of Beausoleil ever since I first heard of them while working at WYSO, Dayton's public radio station. On this fine release **Beausoleil** is joined by some of their favorite musicians to celebrate their 20th year of playing great Louisiana Cajun. ears will hum with the slew of wonderful rare traditional and new tunes on this c.d. From the hot reelin' tune *Newz Reel* that kicks off this release to the sweet and tangy *Ma Vie S'est Arretee* which ends it, this c.d. is sure to satisfy your music pallet.

Rhino, 10635 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90025

Various "Wicked City Movie Soundtrack"

A movie soundtrack filled with the musings of New York punk bands. Well I wouldn't really say punk bands. Most of them sounded like metal cover bands trying out the alternative sound. There were a few standouts including **Sweet Diesel**, **Shades Apart**, and **Orange 9MM**.

Gypsy Records c/o Velvel Records LLC 740 Broadway, NY, NY 10003

Lord Belial "Enter the Moonlight Gate"

Slamming drums, steady bass, churning guitars and screaming vocals. Yes it's another classic Metal Blade release featuring four menacing dudes with spiked armbands and upside down crosses necklaces. Seems like a pretty decent release. You could understand the vocals and there are even some tender moments with haunting female vocals, eerie cello, airy flute and strumming guitars. A thundering metal march ends this soundtrack of the apocalypse.

(Metal Blade Records or http://www.iuma.com/Metal_Blade)

Tex Svengali "Adonai Elohim El Camino" - CD

A band that seems to be looking for a Louisiana swamp heavy rock sound, but comes off sounding like a cover band of weak covers. The songs by no means live up to their titles.

Opulence! POB 2071 Wilmington, NC 28402.
(Kenyata@juno.com)

Garden of Silence "12 Magic Windows"

This bands sounds like they have great potential. The songs themselves sound decent enough. However, the recording quality on this c.d. is something to be desired. It's very staticy which make it laborious to listen to. Definitely a band that I would go see live.

Kara Nash POB 15645 Boone, NC 28608

(Conrad@appstate.edu .KN2328)

Caustic Resin "The Medicine Is All Gone"

A smooth alternative guitar type band. Songs that make me think of scenes from a movie where a couple of youths are traveling through the western states trying to find themselves. Listen to it and tell me if I'm wrong. Very enjoyable.

Alias Records, 2815 W. Olive Ave., Burbank, CA 91505
http//:www.alias@aliasrecords.com

Toxic Narcotic "Damn Near Killed 'Em"

Coming in under 5 minutes, this 8-sng assault on the senses is hard core punk angst at its best. Toxic Narcotic is sick of everything. From people who suck to corporations that suck, there is enough of this bands displeasure to go around.

Rodent Popsicle Records, POB 335, Newton Center, MA 02459

MitesMusic Reviews

Newsboys "Step Up To The Microphone"

When Grog first handed me this c.d., I just thought to myself "What the hell is this?" On the cover is five happy dudes; bad mofo dude, Billy Corgan wannabe dude, smarmy happy acid dude, Tommy Shaw girly dude, and dopey dude. Kind of like the male version of Spice Girls, but trying to have that hip alternative sound. They should call themselves the Dude Guys.
Yea, the Dude Guys. Fuck that! I want to have my own band called the Dude Guys. We'll stuff socks down our pants and dress up in silky shirts with the buttons undone all the way to our belly buttons so we can show off our sexy chest while blathering on about Dude Power! Yea it will be great... ummmm, yea. Oh and about the c.d., it sux.

Star Song Records POB 5010, Brentwood, TN 37024-5010
www.virginrecords.com

Ramona and Beezus "Built to Abandon..."

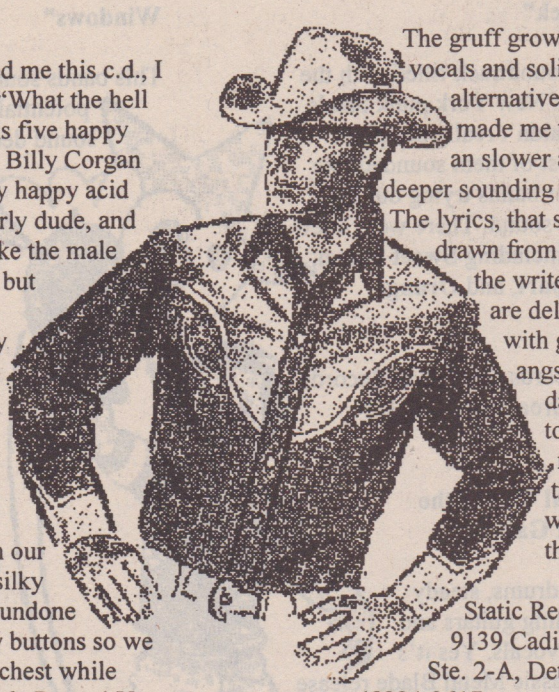
Very annoying. I mean very, very annoying. I wanted to take the c.d. out of the player and smash it into tiny pieces, but then I had a second thought. I'm going to give it to Grog and tell him it's kick ass, and to crank it on his stereo. I'm such a mean bastard.

IMP Records POB 50138 Ft. Wayne, IN 46805

Veil "Words Against Nothing" - CD
Imagine Grog sitting on the throne grunting. Nuff said.

KINGfisher Records, Schaferstrasse 33a, 44147 Dortmund
mail@medialogistics.com

Forge "Decloaking"



The gruff growling vocals and solid alternative sound made me think of an slower and deeper sounding Metalica. The lyrics, that seem to be drawn from the pit of the writer's soul, are delivered with gut ridden angst that dares one to listen. A musical treat that is well worth the listen.

Static Records
9139 Cadieux Rd.,
Ste. 2-A, Detroit, MI
48224-3617

The Smashing Pumpkins "Adore"

Billy's in Love and this c.d. is boring. Soft and sappy is the best way I can describe this release. Even some of my friends, who are Smashing Pumpkins fans, don't care too much for this latest product from the tall bald one.

Virgin Records 338 N. Foothill Rd.
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Sister•Soleil "Solarium"

A band that is more product than artists. Tries to cover the whole range of today's popular club music stylings. With tracks that range from techno-dance club meets the middle east to straight-ahead cheese, this group sounds more like a Madonna rip off than anything else.

A cutesy girl voice with "fuck me" vocals, which is the image they really push. (Check out the photos of the lead singer lying in a baby's crib and dressed like a little girl in a tutu and angel wings. Like some pedophiles sick dream).
All the club kids will dig it. I found it very fake.

Universal Records 1755 Broadway, NY, NY 10019

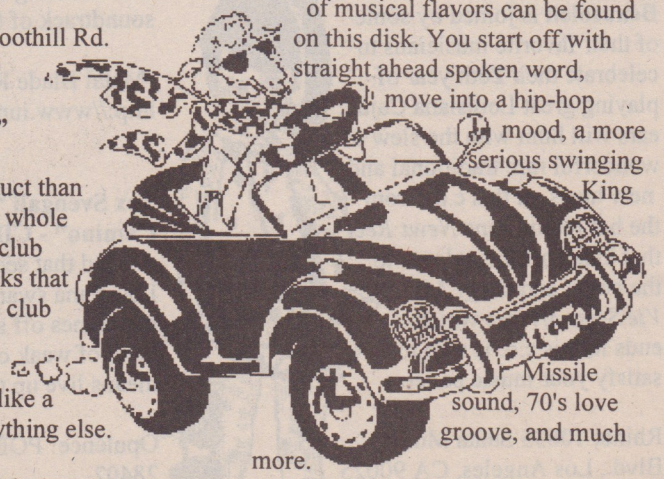
Monster Voodoo Machine "Direct Reaction Now!"
Hard, heavy and in your face. The perfect soundtrack for slam dancing or stomping around in circles. Get this c.d. and let go of your rage.

Dr. Dream Records 817 W. Collins, Orange, CA 92867

Knapsack "This Conversation is Ending Starting Right Now."
This Power Pop Punk Alternative outfit reminds me of Soul Asylum. Honest sounding songs with catchy hooks are driven by a solid guitar sound throughout.

Alias Records, 2815 W. Olive Ave., Burbank, CA 91505
http//:www.aliasrecords.com

Travel "Said Oil Slick # ..."
Poetry, mellow music, and literary movement converge. A mixture of musical flavors can be found on this disk. You start off with straight ahead spoken word, move into a hip-hop mood, a more serious swinging King Missile sound, 70's love groove, and much more.



Starfish Records POB 54408, Cincinnati, OH 45209
www.iac.net/~hubcap/starfish

MITES MUSIC REVIEWS

Various "Shreds Vol. 4: American Underground 96" - CD
It was a bit rough listening to this c.d. at first, but after playing it few more times some of the songs seem to get more tolerable. Many of the songs seemed watered down, weak and even annoying. A few of the bands that I found enjoyable including tunes by **The Krabs** and **The Decibels**.

(Shredder 75 Plum Tree Ln., #3, San Rafael, CA 94901)

Bob Xark's "Gargoyle Wings" - CD

This c.d. is funny in a sad way. Bob seems like a decent fellow with something to say, I'm just not sure if putting out a music c.d. is the right media. I got very annoyed with this release right from the get go. This c.d. also gets my vote for worst cover art. Sorry Bob, but this c.d. sux.

(Bomb Sniffing Dog Records • POB 217Old Chelsea Station • NY, NY 10113http//www.frankmedia.com)

Anger "Juvenile Anthems" - CD
Dead Kennedy's influenced songs start off this wonderful release. The songs steadily mutate into superb steady straight-ahead punk. Tasteful use of the original MTV theme and Rush's "Working Man" are just a couple of the highlights on this c.d. that is well worth your hard-earned cash.

Black Pumpkin Records, POB 4377, River Edge, NJ 07661

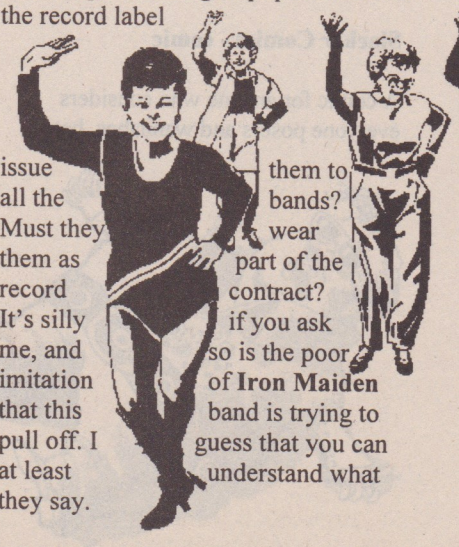
El Niño "Niños Con Bombas" - CD
Español alternativy tunes. The songs at the beginning were pretty good, but the further into the release the quality falters. I really liked the cover art though.

Grita! POB 1216, Murry Hill Station, NY, NY 10156
http://www.grita.com

Flatus "Aural Fixations" - CD
This Pop-punk trio from the great land of Jersey rolled into town last June. Due to band with the sound system not getting to the venue until almost midnight, not too many got to hear them play including yours truly. Too bad, because I really enjoyed this c.d. and my hunch tells me that this is one band that's even better live. What's this band all about? Get the c.d. and find out. Another kickin' release from the folks at Black Pumpkin.

Black Pumpkin Records, POB 4377, River Edge, NJ 07661

Sacred Steel "Reborn in Steel" - CD
Ugly ass cover, and what's up with every band that's on the Metal Blade label always wearing spiked arm wraps in their group photo? Does the record label issue them to all the bands? Must they wear them as part of the record contract? It's silly if you ask me, and so is the poor imitation of **Iron Maiden** that this band is trying to pull off. I guess that you can at least understand what they say.



(Metal Blade Records or http://www.iuma.com/Metal_Blade)

I•Spy "Perversity is Spreading ... it's about time!!! - CD
The scatological cover art for this release makes me think of a two-year-old Beavis and Butthead wannabe. Too bad because the music is actually quite good. Hard edge punk with strong lyrics. Get rid of the shit stained cover and bring your grade up to a B+.

Welcome Committee Records, Box 3-905 Corydon Ave., Winnipeg, MB, R3M-33, Canada

Zebrahead "Zebrahead" - CD
Love this c.d.. A quirky culmination of punk, funk, hardcore and rap. Just imagine what it would sound like if Faith No More, The Red Hot Chili Peppers and Anthrax formed a band. Heavy on the bass, funk blasting beats and rappy singsong vocals. A fine mixture of influences and rock genres make this one mighty fine release.

Doctor Dream Records, LLC. 817 W. Collins, Orange, CA 92867
http://www.zebrahead.com

Various "Check This Out Too!" - CD

Over 70 minutes of great punk from a slew of bands including **Garage Fuzz**, **Adhesive**, **Crank**, **Kid with Man Head** and many more. If you're a fan of **NOFX** or **Mr. T Experience** or of the movie **Glory Daze**, definitely check this compilation out. A big double thumbs up!

Onefoot Records POB 30666, Long Beach, CA 90853

The Rest of Mite's Reviews

ZAO "Where Blood and Fire Bring Rest"- CD

Flame throwing metal madness and Jesus Christ is the inspiration. Yup, that's right, hard hitting deth metal that embraces the love of God the Almighty. You still have the thunderous blend of guitar, drums, bass and growling vocals, however love, redemption and salvation are the themes of many of the songs. And you know what, it's pretty darn good. A tender piano piece ends this disk like the calm after a 40-day storm. Well done.

Tooth & Nail, POB 12698, Seattle, WA 98111-4698
http://www.solidstaterecords.com

A Punk Kid Walks Into a Bar #11 - zine

"A punk kid walks into a bar. The bartender says, 'What can I get you?' The punk kid kills him, takes whatever the fuck he wants."

'Plenty O'Toole' Barclay offers up plenty of fun throughout this wonderful read. Probably one of the best newsprint zine that I have ever had the joy of reading. 30-pages of personal insights and observation, show and c.d. reviews and little lists.

POB 254 Rye, NY 10580

Toxic Flyer Fanzine iss. 25, winter 1998 - zine

A nice little zine that really covers the punk scene on the East Coast. Filled with zine and c.d. reviews and lots on interviews with the likes of The Sinisters, The Candy Snatchers, The Humpers, Steve Wynn and more. Some interviews were hard to follow due to poor grammar and spelling, but then again who am I to say anything.

$3ppd. C/o Billy Whitfield, POB 39158, Baltimore, Maryland 21212

Opulence! Crap - zine

W.E. Fest is a music, zine, independent film, beer swigging, naked people celebration that Grog and I missed this year. This issue of Opulence! Crap just added to our pain. Filled with W.E. Fest moments from 1997 along with a D.I.Y. rant, how to make money on the web, mail art appreciation, an A-Team drinking game, crossword puzzle and more. We are definitely going to the 'Fest' next year. Send for a copy of the zine and you will want to go too.

POB 2071 Wilmington, NC 28402-2071 kenyata@juno.com

Slacker Comics - comic

A comic for anyone who considers everyone posers and wannabes, hates the term 'Generation X' and was into all the bands before they were on Mtv.

Dave Slacker, the fellow behind this great comic, knows your pain and he personifies it in the form of Randy, the youth of the nineties, angry, raw and grungy! Just looking at him, you can feel his rage.

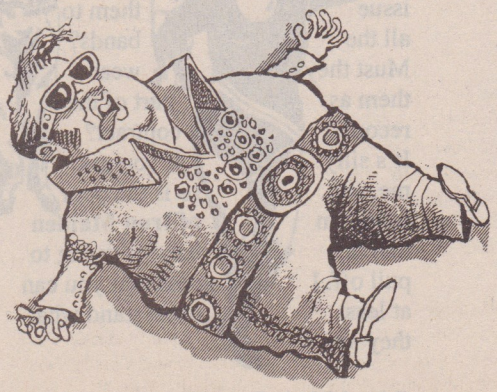
If you ever slammed Nirvana for selling out, but still cried a secret tear for Kurt Cobain when he killed himself, then get this comic because Randy understands.

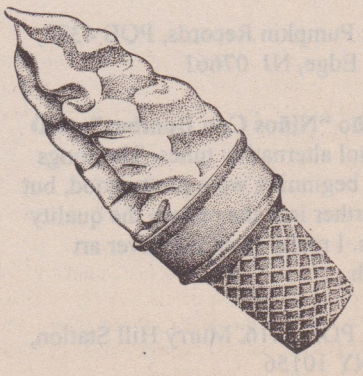
Slave Labor Graphics, 979 S> Bascom Ave., San Jose, CA 95128
DANSLAVW@aol.com

Silent All These Years: My Story Unfolds Before You - zine

This collection of journal entries, school papers, comic ideas and various cut 'n paste images is one person's personal journey to try and discover just what he really wants out of life. It sounds good, but it's not. It's more of a zine for him and not anyone else. It would do Chris, the person behind this bundle of paper, better to focus on his comic aspirations, which he seems to love so much anyway and for which he seems to have the knack for.

81 Patterson Village Dr., Apt. 5
Dayton, OH 45419





ZINE REVIEWS

Anti-Racist Action - Various
(Free to members ARA P.O. Box 82097 Columbus, OH 43202)
Our friends at ARA keep tabs on hate crimes, skinheads and racist groups. Do yourself a favor and join up so we can crush those racist bastards once and for all.
(ara@coil.com)

Banal Probe Presents- Drummed Out / Bigfoot Thunder
(16 H/S Good Print)-($2ppd. P.O. Box 4333 Austin, TX 78765)
This is a special issue of Banal Probe featuring two stories that were too long for the regular issues. Drummed Out is by a guy who worked at a four day rave, well he kinda quit half way through to party and listen to bands instead of selling tacos. A good party story, but annoying to me in a way, either I'm jealous or I'm letting my sXe side out. The other story is an (mis)adventure to see what they thought was going to be a monster truck show but turned out to be a tractor pull. The reason, for a cool looking T-shirt he wanted to get. I found the whole story well written and very amusing. Of course I read it at work and kept having to look over my shoulder to make sure my boss wouldn't bust me...

The Beat Generation - Issue 0 & 1
(#0 36 Q/S Copied)-($.50 + Postage($1?) Dead Cat Inc. P.O. Box 5028 Greenwood, IN 46142)
This is a cartoon featuring Bongo which used to appear in the old Aunt Ida zine. #0 is a poem about Bongo falling in love and changing drastically only to find that his love liked him how he was at first. A good lesson for all us losers out here. #1 is the beginning of a cross country road trip which should continue on in later issues. Always well drawn and humorous these are some comix worth collecting.

Core Kill Zine - #5
(28 H/S Copied)-($1 + Stamp; Tom Watson 3240 N. Marshall Rd Apt 1 Kettering, OH 45429-3634)
Tom is back with another issue of Corekill, which he got me right before I went to print. I've known him for quite a while, actually he tried to submit stuff to MRZ way back then decided it would be better to start his own zine. He has a nice dedication to Ben Schelker, an article and flyers from the bygone local scene of 5-10 years ago (brought back a lot of good memories for me), some pictures and artwork of Tom's, various writings and some zine and music reviews. The most interesting part for me (other than the pics and flyers) were the two interviews with local artist Germ and a wacko named Chainsaw. I usually abhor interviews, but these were fun, interesting and pretty wacked out (how often can I use a form of wack in this review). This is Toms best issue in my opinion and I hope it just keeps getting better.

It's Only Wrong if You Get Caught - Issue 3
(12 H/S Copied)-(Free Locally or $1ppd. 9 Volt Labs P.O. Box 163 Springboro, OH 45066)
9 Volt Labs does this zine, runs a label and promotes shows. I know some people hate 9 Volt and others love them, while most don't have a clue. I find the zine humorous and a great change of pace. This is the first time I have seen the Barnhills being ripped on. I love the Barnhills, but it's fun to see someone bitch about them and not out of jealousy. Their main problem with the Barnhills is their defense of a certain Dayton promoter in MRR. 9 Volts hates him and I have always tried to insult & belittle him over the past nine years, of course I'm not gonna flatter him by putting his name in print. Anyway there's a few other rants about sniffing glue (actually more of a review) and one about a fucked up first date. I've heard this zine being called lame sophomoric humor, and I love it. Loosen up and enjoy it, it's funny dammit!

Reglar Wiglar - Volume 2, Number 10
(Free locally or $2 ppd. P.O. Box 578174 Chicago, IL 60657)
RW has really progressed since I last saw an issue about 3 years ago. This issue has a cool editorial by Chris, some letters, humorous interviews with Annie Caldwell and White Bred & Honky MC (Keeping in it real [stale] in 98), stuff about ska, a great down with people rant, an interesting story about a drug sniffing dog, record, zine & show reviews, comics and a bunch of ads. Another one of my favorite zines, my only criticism is that it seems to need more graphics within the article pages.
(wiglar@aol.com; http://members.aol.com/wiglar/index.html)

Stinkerbell - Issue 6, April 8 1998
(8 H/S Copied)-(Free Locally or $1ppd. Danielle Lake 4952 Inspiration Dr. Hillard, OH 43026-9108)
This is a great little zine which Danielle does to release some of her anger. This issue has writings about government animal testing, ripping on the spice hurls (girls), homosexuality testing and being a lesbian in high school. Good rants and a great feel to the zine.

Subversion - Number 6
(40 F/S Newsprint)-(Free locally or $2 ppd. P.O. Box 320141 San Francisco, CA 94132)
This zine is great. I'd like to say it's a lot like MRZ, but maybe that would be an insult to Subversion. Mr. Rogers writes some great rants (see the one on drinking that I borrowed for this issue), loads of reviews (music, zine and live shows) ads and other fun stuff. This is one of my new favorite zines.

Toxic Flyer Fanzine - Issue 25, Winter 1998
(64 F/S Newsprint)-($3ppd. c/o Billy Whitfield, POB 39158, Baltimore, Maryland 21212)
A nice little zine that really covers the punk scene on the East coast. Filled with zine and cd reviews and lots of interviews with the likes of The Sinisters, The Candy Snatchers, The Humpers, Steve Wynn and more. Some interviews were hard to follow due to poor grammar and spelling , but then again who am I to say anything.

Underdog Zine - Issue 23, Spring 1998
(Free in Chicago or $2ppd. 2206 N. Rockwell St. Chicago, IL 60647-3004)
This zine is published by the fine people at Underdog records. Some of my favorite live shows included Underdog bands and their zine is just a good. Underdog has a really good layout and puts most other zines to shame in that respect. This issue is full of great articles about many topics: how to get a tax refund because of your band, label, zine etc. (I've done it too), abortion rights, masturbation, punk rock enlightenment, a great piece getting on the whiners of the Chicago scene, plus a whole lot more. This is worth way more than the $2 plus if you order some music you will be subscribed to the zine for 1 year (4 issues). One of the top 10 zines in the country.
(udogzine@interaccess.com; http://homepage.interaccess.com/~udogzine/)

Wonder Wheel - Issue 5, Spring 1998
(20 H/S Copied)-(Free Locally or $1ppd. 2122 Burnside Dr Dayton, OH 45439)
WW is created at the same place as Olive Records with some of the same people. A pretty standard zine with rants about getting a DUI, working at a GM factory, why the zine was late (I can relate), reviews, some Olive records propaganda and a piece about being wrongly accused of spreading an offensive zine around campus and getting harassed by all the administrators. Pretty fun and worth the read.
(Spencec2@miamiu.muohio.edu)

GAIL'S MUSIC REVIEWS

The Amazing Royal Crowns - "The Amazing Royal Crowns" - CD
(Velvel Recordings 740 Broadway New York, NY 10003)
Bad arse rockabilly meets crampabilly. A really good CD to swing and stomp to. Buy it!!! *(Due to a Royal Crown dispute they are now known as The Amazing Crowns)*

Brother Cane - "Wishpool" - CD
(Virgin Records 338 N. Foothill Rd. Beverly Hills, CA 90210)
I actually like this album a lot. Brother Cain isn't going to receive any points for creativity from me, but they play basic rock well, which few bands can really claim. The title track and "I Lie in the Bed I Make" are highlights.
(http://www.virginrecords.com)

Dolly Varden - "Thrill of Gravity" - CD
(Dolly Varden 2022 W. Chrystal Chicago, IL 60622)
I saw these guys open for Todd Snider in Chicago this year so I am partial to them. The record gets off to a slow start, but when it shines, it glitters. "Dangerously Thin" is a must hear. They kinda sound like Whiskeytown meets X. I can't wait to hear their next record. They have a lot of promise. Good lyrics.
(mballetto@hotmail.com)

Buddy Guy - "Heavy Love" - CD
(Silvertone Records 137-139 West 25th Street New York, NY 10001)
This album is nothing but heavy soul thumping grooves. It made me want to put on my white platform shoes & blue metallic shirt and get down. Johnny Lang plays guitar on a track. Great record.

The Three Finger Cowboy - "Kissed" - CD
(Daemon Records P.O. Box 1207 Decatur, GA 30031)
Great name for a band. This album Sucks with a capital S. I was just bored the whole way through. Don't even bother.

WHAT I USED TO DREAM ABOUT WHEN I WAS ELEVEN

...I dreamed about beating Minnesota Fats in a high stakes pool game.
...I dreamed about writing the greatest rock n roll song ever and Alice Cooper would sing it.
...I dreamed about being the first professional woman's basketball player.
...I dreamed about making a radio that played videos along with the music.
...I dreamed about freedom, love, peace, anarchy, harmony and chaos.
...I dreamed about riding a skateboard to school instead of riding the god damn bus.
...I dreamed about being a fantastic dancer like the girl in the song "Dancing Queen".
...I dreamed about not giving a shit what anyone else thought about me.
...I dreamed about not hearing the cruel and unusual comments from all the kids at school especially Rocky and Carole with an "E".
...I dreamed about being the first punk rocker from New Lebanon.
...I dreamed about walking around and writing poems about trees and characters on the road like Jack Kerourac.
...I dreamed about being able to buy the first Sex Pistols record.
...I dreamed about seeing Iggy Pop at the She Lounge.
...I dreamed about being a mathematical genius.
...I dreamed about going to college and meeting new people who would know what I was talking about when I mentioned the Dead Kennedy's or the Minutemen.
...I dreamed about dancing with Adam Ant.
...I dreamed about owning 1,000 records and having dance parties in my backyard.
...I dreamed about being able to share all my dreams and ideas.
...I dreamed about riding a horse on the range in Wyoming.
...I dreamed about the simple moments that add up through our lifetimes like saying "Hello" to older people or giving someone a hug.

As women, we lose touch with the eleven year old girl inside us.
As time goes on we need to find that strong eleven year old girl who can take on the world and who won't take shit from anyone in order to become stronger and better women.
Being eleven meant having no boundaries set by yourself. You could achieve anything.
Being eleven meant discovering and exploring everything you could get your hands on.
Being eleven meant being yourself for just a moment without any fears.

...Gail

JOHNNY DEATHS MUSIC REVIEWS

Dark Funeral - "Vobiscum Satanas" - CD
(Metal Blade Records 4025 E. Chandler Blvd. Ste. 70-D7 Phoenix, AZ 85044)
Pretty standard black metal here from bitter cold Sweden. These black metal bands tend to get pretty boring when every song sounds alike. This album sounds pretty much like the previous Enthroned cd, but Enthroned do it better. This cd contains 8 tracks about Satan, demons, and evil. Nothing on this cd that we haven't heard before, but these guys still do a damn good job. 7/10.
(mtlbldrds@aol.com; http://www.iuma.com/Metal_Blade.html)

Disfear - "Everyday Slaughter" - CD
(Osmose Productions 4470 Sunset Blvd. Suite 6 Los Angeles, CA 90027)
I would have to classify this band as a mixture of punk / hardcore/ and death metal. A rather disappointing release from Osmose records from France. Clocking inat only 26 minutes, I guess these guys were too busy getting their punkheads shaved to release a full length cd . I will give this cd a couplepoints for the cool apocalyptic imagery on the cd cover. Basically I would say this cd is crap. 3/10.
(disfear@algonet.sc; http://www.algonet.sc/~disfear/)

Driller Killer - "Fuck the World" - CD
(Osmose Productions 4470 Sunset Blvd. Suite 6 Los Angeles, CA 90027)
Another crappy release from osmose records. I listened to a few minutes of this cd, and then tossed it on the trash. Typical death metal vocal, very boring repetitive songs. Song themes similar to Autopsy. Songs about sex, and bodily functions. Poorly written lyrics by someone that doesn't even seem to know English. 2/10.

Enthroned - "Towards the Skullthrone of Satan" - CD
(Metal Blade Records 4025 E. Chandler Blvd. Ste. 70-D7 Phoenix AZ 85044)
Black Metal at it's finest here. 55 minutes of satanic bliss with songs about Satan, Armageddon, the downfall of humanity/ Christianity, and those cold dark Nordic forests. Pull out your black candles and drink some blood for Satan. 8/10.
(mtlbldrds@aol.com; http://www.iuma.com/Metal_Blade.html)

Konkhra - "Weed Out the Weak" - CD
(Metal Blade Records 4025 E. Chandler Blvd. Ste. 70-D7 Phoenix, AZ 85044)
This band comes to us from Denmark . This would have to be the best cd I have reviewed this time. This bands sounds like a mixture of Sepultura and Machine Head. Very crushing, and crunchy rhythms. Fast and Aggressive music. Get this cd, and I'll see you in the Pit ! 9/10.
(mtlbldrds@aol.com; http://www.iuma.com/Metal_Blade.html)

Merciful Fate - "Dead Again" - CD
(Metal Blade Records 4025 E. Chandler Blvd. Ste. 70-D7 Phoenix, AZ 85044)
Well there is no mistaking King Diamond's wailing banshee vocal style. To me this sounds pretty much like any King Diamond album I have heard before. With standard song themes dealing with Satan, death, vampires, witches etc. 7/10.
(mtlbldrds@aol.com; http://www.iuma.com/Metal_Blade.html)

Mithotyn - "In the Sign of the Ravens" - CD
(Metal Blade Records 4025 E Chandler Blvd. Ste. 70-D7 Phoenix, AZ 85044)
Now this is one killer cd. I would still classify this as black metal, but with some originality behind it ! Lots of variety on these tracks with acoustic guitars, keyboards and other effects. Also good variety in the singing styles too, with some black metal vocals as well as clean male background vocals. One of the better black metal releases to come out recently! Get this cd and burn in hell with me! 9/10.
(mtlbldrds@aol.com; http://www.iuma.com/Metal_Blade.html)

The Rocking Dildos - "Horny Hit Parade" - CD
(Osmose Productions 4470 Sunset Blvd. Suite 6 Los Angeles, CA 90027)
These guys sound like Impaled Nazarene to me. Kind of a black metal / hardcore mixture here. No lyrics included with the cd, so I have to guess these guys are singing about based on the song titles. Lots of song titles dealing with sex, anger and hatred. If you're into Impaled Nazarene, I suggest you check out these guys! 6/10.

Doug De Bias "Coming of Age in Babylon"
($12, New Spring Publications Princeton, NJ 08540)
Coming of Age in Babylon is a book written about finding your own reality and has straight answers about questions you always wanted to ask (or did ask without recieving a real answer) about many things in life. Doug writes about things as honestly as he can, but you still have to take into account that he doesn't have the difinitive answers. He's just pointing you in the right direction, so that you will question things and make up your own mind. This book touches on masturbation, capitalism, becoming yourself, homosexuality, drugs, religion, love & sex, heros, spirituality, politics and many other things which make life interesting and worthwhile. What I find really interesting is that even though Doug is older, he isn't preachy and is open minded enough have not lost touch with reality. He is a parent of two grown daughters, who I'm sure have benifitted greatly from his & his wife's openess about life.

Doug wrote this book with the expected reading age to be between 18-25, to help people find their own reality. However, I think that age range is somewhat limiting. Sure by the time you're 25 you have experienced and figured out a lot. But there are always gaps and things which you haven't learned or considered. Most of my friends are in their late twenties and early thirties and we are still actively searching.

It is pretty cool that this arrived while I've been going through a process of rebuilding my life, ideas, goals and philosophies. This gives me more to think about and another vantage point to try. I agree with most of what is written in the book and the parts I disagree with I can respect his viewpoint. Over all I think it's a great book, which I would have loved to have had when I was 18, but it still is helpful a decade later. The book is a quick read and can even be used as a handy reference due to its compact size. Doug told me that it will be sold with an accompanying CD, so you can listen while you read (which I prefer anyway). -Grog
(http:/www.comingofageinbabylon.com)

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VIDEO REVIEW

hed(pe) - "2 Live Songs"
(Zomba Recordings 137-139 West 25th Street New York, NY 10001)
Well, the first song showed them playing live, but it was definitly the studio version of the song. The video was pretty cool and gave a good idea of what it would be like to see them live. Very loud, aggressive and fun. The second song was recorded by one camara and the condenser mike and gave a true representaion of the band live. Overall a very cool video and now I really want to see this band live more than ever. - Grog

MUSIC REVIEWS

Grog's attempts to review music are captured below for your reading pleasure. If you disagree with any of the reviews then, it's cool with me.

All - "Mass Nerder" - CD
(Epitaph 2798 Sunset Blvd LA, CA 90026)
(All P.O. Box 36 Fort Collins, CO 80522)
Well, I haven't really listened to All for about 5 years and the last album I have of theirs is "Perculator". I saw them on the Warped tour and was re-energized by them (more about that in the next issue along with the interview with Bill). All are kings of energetic nerd punk-pop and they don't shy away from speaking their minds. Anyway their first track "World's on Heroin" really mirrors my feelings for the past six months or so. It just seems like most people are slow and lame, not like I'm great or anything but I like to keep creating, moving and doing. I just have this problem with complacency right now and so does All. Actually I can relate to the lyrics in almost every song on the album. I think if I could have spoken to the whole band somewhere else or at a different time we would have gotten along great, since I feel very similar to the lyrics that Chad, Karl, Stephen and especially Bill wrote. In other words I love this album partially for the music, partially for the lyrics, partially for the attitude and partially for energy. A great release.
(alldescend@earthlink.net)

Sean Altman - "Seandemonium" - CD
(Big Sean Music 200 E. 10th St. Suite 490 New York, NY 10003)
Sean has been best known in the past for being the founder of Rockappela of the Carmen SanDiego TV show. Now, he's solo and this is a disk of his home demos. Some of the songs are totally acapella, where he does instrumentation using his voice. There are a few hilarious phone calls to major record labels asking if can come down and sign a record contract. His songs are fun, humorous and a far cry from his preteen songs from the Carmen SanDiego days. If you're familiar with Moxy Fruvious you'll know what to expect except that several of his songs are reminiscent of the 50's crooners. Try something different and infectious, try Big Sean.
(sean@bigsean.com; subscribe@bigsean.com; http://www.BigSean.com)

Anomanes - "Pronunciation" - CD
(Rodent Popsicle Records P.O. Box 335 Newton Center, MA 02159)
This starts off with some cool tribal drumming which I know Mite and Dawn would love them it breaks into grindcore. I like grindcore when I'm at a show, but it really doesn't do much for me when I'm listening to it at home. Actually I guess you could call this death metal but it really does remind me a bit of the beloved Blatherskite from Indy. A pretty cool CD if you're into grindcore or thrashy stuff.

The Aquabats! - "The Fury of The Aquabats!" - CD
(Time Bomb Records)
(The Aquabats P.O. Box 838 Huntington Beach, CA 92648-0838)
I am a totally converted Aquabats cadet. I heard on the warped tour from several people that I missed one of the best bands while I was interviewing some people, then when Gail and I walked by their stage as they were leaving we both said they looked like they were probably really fun. Now that I heard their CD I agree. The Aquabats are a band who should be revered as the lords of their domain, whatever that really is. Imagine a great ska band, with the fashion sense and humor of Devo with extra humor from The Dead Milkmen. Fun, fun, fun!!!!! I really regret not seeing these guys.
(http://www.theaquabats.com)

Beseech - "...from a Bleeding Heart" - CD
(Metal Blade Records 4025 E. Chandler Blvd. Ste. 70-D7 Phoenix, AZ 85044)
When I heard the first song I thought it was a cool joke. Then after a few more I learned to my horror that this is serious. What is Grog rambling about you ask? Well, imagine the most pretentious Spinal Tap song (i.e. the beginning of "Stonehenge"). Well, that's how these songs sound. Slow powerful music dripping with testosterone with growling seriously sung lyrics. The lyrics are like something Dio would have done. They also have sweet female vocals on some songs which for some odd reason reminds me think of Meatloaf, even though they sound nothing alike (except for the pretentiousness). This is good for a laugh, but after a few tracks I had to turn it off because it's hard to believe that they're serious.
(mtlbldrds@aol.com; http://www.iuma.com/Metal_Blade.html)

The Bouncing Souls - "The Bouncing Souls" - CD
(Epitaph Records 2798 Sunset Blvd. LA, CA 90026)
I haven't really heard much from Bouncing Souls except for occasional songs on compilations within the last few years, of course I did disappear for about three years. I remember when I saw Heike open up for them about five years ago. I was instantly hooked on Bouncing Souls and it's great to hear them be similar but not stagnant. They mix straight ahead punk, hard-core and ska into a fun, loud, energetic package that is really making my day. Great music always pumps up my attitude and even my job can't get me down. I love the quote at the top of their lyrics page, it says it all. "We were 'the most touring band in punk rock' but 3 straight years takes its toll. It felt good to finally lock down and write these songs over a beautiful cold New York Winter on our beloved East coast. I guess it's not good to ever be too comfortable in life no matter what you do or how old you are so here is another record about testing the boundaries of yourself, play it loud."

Bugattitype 35 - "Bugattitype 35" - CD
(Jollydog Records P.O. Box 3254 Madison, WI 53704-0254)
I was a bit biased when I went to review this since I saw BT35 and had lunch with them the next day. They are very cool, have a real road van, are from Wisconsin (my adopted home) and are just plain fun people. Their songs reminds me of Naked Aggression (more native Wisconsinites) mainly due to the lyric style. Their music varieties between slow, mellow kinda ethereal noise with the emphasis on vocals to hard-core / melodic punk for most interludes and choruses. The lyrics deal mainly with sociopolitical topics with some being very personal. A great CD and a fun band to see live and just talk to. By the way "Killboard" is now one of my favorite songs.
(btype35@aol.com; http://www.gdinet.com/bt35.html)

I reserve the right to hold me grudges
friends like you, you know the rest
but all told I hold onto my anger far to long
Until it's a joke, the night is cold
The joke is old, and poorly told

MUSIC REVIEWS

Cherry Poppin' Daddies - "The Swingin' Hits of CPD" - CD
(Mojo Records 1453 14th Street Box 284 Santa Monica, CA 90404){Universal})
(CPD P.O. Box 10494 Eugene, OR 97440)
CPD are one of the swinginest bands on this here planet. This is a collection of swing songs from their previous three releases along with a few new ones. Yes, swing is all the rage now, but the Daddies have been doing this since '89 along with ska, punk, and roots rock songs. I have their release from 1994 and think that it is a great mix of many different styles. Their albums reflect this, but on stage they have been focusing in on the swing sound. I highly recommend buying this release since I find it incredibly catchy and impossible to not want to dance to. (Grog dancing is as scary as you think). Then I think you should buy some of their older releases so you can get a feel for how diverse they really are. Then you should send Grog $50 since he clued you into some cool bands.
(http://www.mojorecords.com; mclgdrnk@bitech.com; http://www.bitech.com/daddies)

Cliford Nevernew - "Topter Baster" - CD
(Starfish Records P.O. Box 9441 Cincinnati, OH 45209)
I thought their pervious release was pretty good, but this one blew me away. They rock out so much more now and are experimenting a lot more with their songs. Many of their songs have weird guitar flashes ala Sonic Youth and Brainiac. Most of the songs are uptempo alternative rock that is really interesting and has those guitar blasts. A fun release and I'm sure they are great live with tons of energy and melodic enough to really get you movin'.
(http://www.iac.net/~hubcap.html)

Colonel Bleep - "First One In" - CD
(Colonel Bleep Industries 3524 East Fifth Street Dayton, OH 45403)
This is a two song EP which I heard they have been making on their CD-R. The main thing I notice about these songs is Chris' bass playing which is among the best I've ever heard. At times I hear it venture off into Les Claypool territory. These songs put the music in the forefront and makes it seem that the vocals are an afterthought, bu the vocals are still important. They call themselves fusion-core and I'd have to agree. I used to listen to a lot of fusion back in high school and Col. Bleep definitely have a fusion backing but with a solid hard-core sound. Really cool, but the first time it can be overwhelming for the casual listener.
(colbleep@chatnet.com; http://members.theglobe.com/colbleep/main.html)

Cracker - "Gentleman's Blues" - CD
(Virgin Records 338 N. Foothill Rd. Beverly Hills, CA 90210)
I've always loved David Lowery's music ever since the first time I heard & saw Camper Van Beethoven back in the mid eighties. Throughout the years he's changed some but his music is always great. This new release is no exception. I popped it in and immediately loved it. Gail would love this CD especially since Tommy Stinson plays bass on a track and Mike Campbell plays on a few as well. If you haven't heard Cracker then I don't know where you've been. They are a good mix of rock, alternative, alternative country, blues and just fun. Some f the songs remind me of Gail's beloved Todd Snider. Maybe I'll let Gail review it too and throw her comments in here as well.
(http://www.virginrecords.com)

Craig's Brother - "Homecoming" - CD
(Tooth & Nail Records P.O. Box 12698 Seattle, WA 98111-4698) This is a mix of metallic hard-core and punk pop with a whiny singer. However, instead of playing upon the fact that he's whiny he tried to be a power singer, which gets really annoying. He almost sounds like the singer from the Migraines except the Migraines use it to their advantage. It just doesn't fit these songs and it sounds like he takes himself way to seriously.
(http://www.toothandnail.com)

Defleshed - "Under the Blade" - CD
(Metal Blade Records 4025 E. Chandler Blvd. Ste. 70-D7 Phoenix, AZ 85044)
BLARHHH!!!!! ARRRGGGGGHHHH!!!!! GRRAAAAA!!!!! STRAAAAAAAAA!!!!!!!! Alright Lars "The master of the six-stringed-beast", Gustaf "Lord of power and pain" and Matte "God of thunder and lightning" get together to growl and wank through these 11 metal songs. But what the hell do I know.
(mtlbldrds@aol.com; http://www.iuma.com/Metal_Blade.html)

Dropkick Murphys - "Do or Die" - CD
(Hellcat Records 2798 Sunset Blvd. LA, CA 90026)
(SASE to Dropkick Murphys P.O. Box 7504 Quincy, MA 02269)
The first song has bagpipes which makes for an interesting introduction to the band. It made me like them instantly since they're willing to try different things. Most of their songs are melodic sing along hard-core (with a bit of ska thrown in) that you can really pogo to. Songs about unity, living as you need to, standing up for what you believe and the common working man. A band with integrity and passion which is what it's all about.

Dystopia One - "Dystopia One" - Cassette
(Dystopia One 36 Central Park Rd. Plainview, NY 11803)
Staticy, distorted, basic three chord punk rock with some pretty humorous lyrics. I haven't heard anything like this for quite a while, so it really brings back the memories.
(info@dystopiaone.com; http://www.dystopiaone.com)

Esoterics - "The Lick" - CD
(Olive Records 2122 Burnside Dr. Dayton, OH 45439)
This is a pretty short CD, 9 songs in just under 20 minutes. However, they get their point across and don't waste your time with boring extended jams. Yeah, so what Grog, what do they sound like? Well, they are distorted, heavy, pretty fast, loud, energetic and a bit disjointed. I can't really think of anyone to compare them too, except they do have that lo-fi sound which has been pretty popular over the last few years. I don't think that this quite captures their live show, which is really good and must be seen.
(spencec2@miamiu.muohio.edu; http://www.miavx1.muohio.edu/~spencec2/oliverecords.html

FBomb - "F**Bomb" - 7"**
(Your Best Friend Records Columbus,OH)
This reminds me quite a bit of Stiff Little Fingers with early Michae Stipe style vocals (i.e. muted and slurred) and it has a great low budget indie feel to the recording. They seem like a great band to s live, maybe I'll get the chance to check them out at some point.
(http://www.geociies.com/SunsetStrip/Alley/3902)

MUSIC REVIEWS

Forge - "Decloaking" - CD
(Static Records 17215 Mack Ave. Detroit, MI 48224)
Forge brings to mind Skinny Puppy but they don't really sound as dark and evil as most industrial bands. The music and lyrics are there but they are lacking that something that throws the mix into a nightmare. It's good but I don't believe their lyrics whereas with most industrial bands you could see them actually living out their life and seeing the world as they do in their lyrics. In the middle of one song I swear the steal a riff from an 80's Iron Maiden song. Really weird.
(suestatic@aol.com; http://www.detroitmusic.com/static)

Frenzal Rhomb - "Meet the Family" - CD
(Rubber Records 633 Ocean Ave, Studio #21 Santa Monica, CA)
(Distributed by: What are Records?)
A great punk pop band from Australia. Most of their songs are light hearted and fun, but they also touch on serious topics and clearly speak their mind. Now that my beloved Sicko has called it quits I am calling Frenzal Rhomb my favorite punk pop band. I was also lucky enough to catch a few songs of theirs at the Warped festival. This disk is not leaving my sight for quite a while, get your own copy it's worth it.
(rubberrec@aol.com; http://www.Rubberrecords.com) (info@war.com; http://www.war.com)

Fuel - "Sunburn" - CD
(Sony 550 Music 550 Madison Ave. New York, NY 10022-3211)
Their song "Shimmer" has been tons of airplay lately and I actually think it's a great song. Most of the other songs on this disk are heavier, with only a few sounding like they were thrown together at the last moment. Over all I think they sound like a cross between Soundgarden, Radiohead and the Goo Goo Dolls with a bit of typical modern alternative rock cliches thrown in. Personally I like the bands I mentioned and I feel Fuel embodies several aspects of those bands and turns it into their own sound. I'll definatly be adding this to my collection. There is also a multi-media portion to this release which I haven't checked out yet. Look for an updated review soon.
(http://www.fuelweb.com)

Full on the Mouth - "Collide" - CD
(Pioneer Music Group 1290 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10104)
Well, I'm totally biased towards this band since I meet them on the Warped tour and they are from Flint, MI. Flint was always good to my band and the singer of FOTM even remembered seeing us. With that in mind I'd still like the band even if I never meet them. They are a heavy alternative rock band who uses plenty of technology in their songs (i.e. drum machines, sampling and weird effects) to a point where you could say some songs border on industrial. On stage they have a live drummer along with the machines. Sometimes the vocals seemed to get too smooth for my taste for the style of music they play, but who ever said I had taste anyway. Overall a good disk from a great bunch of guys. Fun and interesting.
(pmg@pioneermusic.com; http://www.fullonthemouth.com)

Full on the Mouth - "People Mover" - DVD
(Pioneer Music Group 1290 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10104)
This is evidently the first DVD single ever to be released. Luckily when my tenant sublet her apartment the new renter had a DVD player so about 8 of us watched this disk. The disk features 2 versions of their song "People Mover" and a bio page. It's a cool video, with bonus points since they have a monkey in it. I've seen a few DVD movies and it seemed like Pioneer didn't really take advantage of all the available features. All they really did was made use of the superior sound quaility. Other than that it was like a videocassette. The song itself had everybody rockin' and it's even featured on the soundtrack for the Sony playstation game. Pretty cool, but the format has a way to go if they want people to shell out cash for it.
(pmg@pioneermusic.com; http://www.fullonthemouth.com)

Gates of Ishtar - "The Dawn of Flames" - CD
(Metal Blade Records 4025 E. Chandler Blvd. Ste. 70-D7 Phoenix, AZ 85044)
Basic metal that I've heard too much already. Slow intros and guitar wanking solos, fast thrashy verses and chorus with a gravely voiced screamer. When this type of metal first appeared I was into it (I also got stoned way back then) but now it seems old and dated. I can see all the stoned long haired metal kids in their leathers or jean jackets banging their heads and playing air-guitar. If you're into that stuff, this is for you. Otherwise you can use it as a coaster.
(mtlbldrds@aol.com; http://www.iuma.com/Metal_Blade.html)

Grinspoon - "Licker Bottle Cozy" - CD
(Universal Records 1755 Broadway New York, NY 10019)
This is very heavy metal sounding music ala early Megadeth. It reminds me of Pantara in a way but the vocals are more in the alternative rock vein. If you're into heavy metalish stuff than this band is for you. The last song sounds like old school HC, but with a metalhead lead. I really don't know what to make of this band. I like them, but it depends on my mood. I think I need to hear more than a 5 song EP from them to get a true feeling on this band.
(ateam@one.net.au; http://www.grinspoon.com.au)

Gutfiddle - "Kung Foolery" - CD
(Onefoot Records P.O. Box 3834 Cherry Hill, NJ 08034-0592)
Hard-core drum beats and soaring vocal harmonies. Is it some really good Bad Religion sans the sickeningly sweet vocals and wanking guitar? No, it's Gutfiddle who have produced one of my favorite releases this issue. They have most of my favorite elements of Bad Religion in their songs, and cut out the ones which annoy me. The guitar and bass are good, but no to flashy so the emphasis is definitely on the vocals. The lyrics are based on self discovery, relationships and other personal experiences.
(OnefootUS@aol.com)

Hatred - "The Offering" - Cassette
(Hatred P.O. Box 10264 Alexandria, VA 22310)
Growl, whine...I am the lord of darkness...blarggghhhh...bow to me..... [guitar wank]...eat human flesh...growl, whine...[wank, wank, wank]... satan is everywhere...
(hatredva@aol.com)

(hed)pe - "Serpent Boy ep" - CD
(Zomba Recordings 137-139 West 25th Street New York, NY 10001)
This EP features two songs from the ful album release (see review in MRZ #8) and one new track. The track "Serpent Boy" is featured three times on this disc: the album version, radio edit, and "Rock Da Beat Mix". The other song from the full length is also remixed to help keep this from being a typical CD single. However, the remixes didn't really do much for me since they seemed very close to the original mix. A good disk but I would recommend the full length over this EP unless you're a fanatic.
(http://www.hedpe.com)

I wanna be more like the ocean
No talk, all action

MUSIC REVIEWS

The Mystery Addicts - "The Mystery Addicts" - 7"
(Beer City Records P.O. Box 26035 Milwaukee, WI 53226-0035)
(Mystery Addicts P.O. Box 4004 Dayton, OH 45401)
Dayton's kings of beer and adrenaline fueled glam punk, rock out this 4 song 7". Drink, pogo, slam, growl and lose control, but not necessarily in that order. If you like bands like MC5, New York Dolls, Iggy, Dead Boys, Ramones, then you'll love the Mystery Addicts.

MxPx - "Slowly Going the Way of the Buffalo" - CD
(A&M Records)
This is MxPx's major label debut. I reviewed their last release "Life in General" (Tooth & Nail Records) in last issue. It sounds to me like they have been listening to Sicko (one of my favorite bands) since their last release. This is way better and has turned me into a true MxPx fan. Their punk-pop has evolved into something special instead of just being lost in a sea of clones. It always amazes me when a band actually gets better when the make the jump to a major. Maybe it's the fact that they all just turned 21.

New Speedway Kings - "All Ages Show" - CD
(Shredder Records 75 Plum Lane #3 San Rafael, CA 94901)
Mel Shredder just keeps putting out great record after great record. This is a 6 song EP of fast melodic punk with great movin' bass lines. My favorite song is "Aimee" which is about growing old "Are we becoming what we hated?" It's a good question and I hate to say it, but most people are. A really good band who I hope I will hear more from soon.

98 Mute - "Class of 98" - CD
(Theologian Records P.O. Box 1070 Hermosa Beach, CA 90254)
This album was dedicated to one of the members older brother who died back in 96 and evidently played in punk bands and had a very strong influence on at least his brother if not the whole band. The lyrics are great as they analyze many personal issues with a realistic punk rock outlook. The lyrics are very positive and could for the most part be considered sXe with their motivational outlook, very fuckin' cool. I will be throwing in the lyrics to two of their songs elsewhere in the zine. This is one of my new favorite bands.
(http://theologianrecords.com)

The Pietasters - "Willis" - CD
(Hellcat Records 2798 Sunset Blvd. LA, CA 90026)
I saw these guys on the Warped tour and interviewed the singer, Stephen, who was really cool. I have to thank Gail's twin (they were wearing the same 40's shirt) from Hydrochloric Asshead zine for clueing me into the Pietasters. The first song is odd since it's basically a 50's style rock song with horns thrown in. The rest of the disk is smooth traditional ska that is irresistible, with a few other songs that smooth funk, smooth rock and smooth reggae. Smooth skankable fun for everyone, turn it up, let loose and let go. I love this...

Rancid - "Life Won't Wait" - CD
(Epitaph Records 2798 Sunset Blvd. LA, CA 90026)
(Rancid P.O. Box 27579 LA, CA 90027-0579)
I remember when Ben dubbed me a copy of the first Rancid album right after it came out. He told me that it was a few guys who were in Op Ivy and that it raged. Well, like usual Ben was right on target and I played that tape every morning at work to pump me up and played it many other times over the next two years. I was slightly disappointed with "Let's Go" & "Out Come the Wolves" which I didn't think captured the power of the first release. In retrospect I realize that they were changing and finding their true sound. Now here is their latest. It is smoother but captures a deeper power. I don't think they've lost the attitude at all, they've just grown older and have seen a lot more and it happens to all of us regardless if we admit it or not. This release has some of their great punk songs but most of it moves into a punk influenced ska direction which Rancid does very uniquely. Rancid is moving in their own direction and I like it. Seeing them live on the Warped tour was kind of a letdown though since it felt like they were just going through the motions. I don't know what the problem was and I wish I had gotten on better with Matt when I interviewed him, but as Gail said he seemed very annoyed by me. Regardless I still love Rancid, besides they're the biggest band I know who still lists their po box number on their CD's. If you like Rancid be sure to check out Operation Ivy and Rancid's first CD.
(http://www.rancid.com)

Roadside Monument - "I am the Day of Current Taste" - CD
(Tooth & Nail Records P.O. Box 12698 Seattle, WA 98111)
The first few times I listened to this I just couldn't write a review. I don't know why, but I just didn't know what to really say (A first for Grog, Mr. talkative). Now, maybe I'm in the right frame of mind or something so I can finally accomplish this review. Musically they remind me of Cupid Car Club, (but with extended instrumental jam portions that tend to annoy me) on some songs and like Dinosaur Jr. on other songs with the same annoying instrumental bits. The vocals bring to mind a smoother J. Mascis. I would really like this if it weren't for all those extended instrumental parts which are tacked onto the songs, maybe live it's ok, but I just can't stand it.
(http://www.toothandnail.com)

Ruination - "Visionary Breed" - CD
(Goldtrack Records P.O. Box 37062 28080 Madrid Spain)
I'm sorry. I tried to listen to this but it's fuckin' pitiful. It has lame vocals which are wimply sung out with an occasional growl, light guitar wanking, a vaguely metal sounding rhythm section. I'd like to think that this was just a joke CD, but I can tell that these guys are serious. Maybe if this was 1985, people might give a shit, but these guys make Spinal Tap sound like gods.
(goldtrack@arrakis.es; http://www.arrakis.es/~goldtrack)

Second Coming - "Second Coming" - CD
(Capitol Records)
Well, the vocals remind me of Chris Cornell, but the music is a bit more on the metal side than Soundgarden and they throw in some industrial elements ala White Zombie. It doesn't really do much for me on the first listen, but with repeated tries I find myself liking it. Some of the songs are pretty lame (cheese factor of 8), but most of them good. If you like alternative metal / hard rock you should like these guys.

Like a zero drowning in a sea of higher numbers
everything you said to me was dumb at least it's stupid
I remain as intrigued, but no more astounded

MUSIC REVIEWS

Jeremy Hepp - "Demo" - Cassette
(Jeremy Hepp 663-4868)
Well I probably should have let Mite review this, but I'm at the wire. Jeremy plays some great songs on a baby grand and a synth. The songs are really well done and very relaxing, yes something that can get Grog to relax (and that's a rare feat). Great mediation or casual relaxation music. I need to let Mite and Gail both hear this. I'm sure they would both really appreciate it. This is better than most of the relaxation tapes I've heard, plus he's local.

The Hunger "Cinematic Superthug" - CD
(Universal Records 1755 Braodway NYC, NY 10019)
The Hunger sounds like any number of hard rock acts from the eighties trying their hand sounding like a nineties hard rock alternative band with tinges of industrial rock blended in. It's like if you mixed Tesla and the Bullet Boys into a blender with Soundgarden and Rage Against the Machine. It's not bad, but it really doesn't do anything special for me and some of the lyrics really bring me back to the lame portions of the eighties.

Huntingtons - "High School Rock" - CD
(Tooth and Nail Records P.O. Box 12698 Seattle, WA 98111-4698)
It's the Ramones reincarnated into four new twenty year olds!!!!! No, it's the Huntingtons, who love the Ramones and play fast Ramonish songs where you can actually understand the lyrics. This is one case of imitation that is pure flattery as well as great. I love the Ramones, but they are getting on in years (no disrespect guys) and the Huntingtons are here to carry the legacy forward. Great hey-ho fun for everyone. If you love the Ramones, you need this, you will not be disappointed.
(http://www.toothandnail.com)

Icos - "At the Speed of Life" - CD
(Mercury Records)
Well, I reviewed their last album in MRZ #8 and since the they've been signed to a major. However, I don't think it's had much of an effect on them either positive or negative. All I can think of while listening to this is a watered down Megadeth or Metallica. Those bands will probably be at this stage in about five years. This just doesn't do anything for me even though it is decent it lacks that something special.

Jack Black - "Jack Black" - CD
(Cacophone Records P.O. Box 6058 Albany, NY 12206)
Straight ahead rock meets snotty punk rock ala Social D with shades of MC5, The Dead Boys, The Stooges, Velvet Underground, etc. They have a few slower more "heartfelt" songs which just aren't as catchy as their hip rockin' rebel songs. You can feel and hear the 50's influence, but they are definitely based in the 90's. I also heard that they put on a great live show and are great guys in general.
(jackblack@flicted.com; http://www.flicted.com; http://www.cacophone.com)

Kil Kare - "Kil Kare" - CD
(Blackberry Press P.O. Box 2556 Portland, OR 97208)
Kil Kare features the fabulous Donut brothers as they were known around these parts years ago. Brian and Eric were both in Liquid Draino and Pure Plastic Tree, two of Daytons best bands, in my opinion at least. Now they are both reunited in Portland with a new drummer. Kil Kare has vocal stylings (spiffy phrase, eh?) reminiscent of Nation of Ulysses and Cupid Car Club. Brian is still playing his upright bass and helping bring punk into a new age. You can hear a large variety of influences in their music which reflects their individual diversity. I was able to see them live earlier this year and it was a great show. I recommend catching them and getting their disk if at all possible.
(grime@aracnet.com)

Less Than Jake - "Hello Rockview" - CD
(Capitol Records)
I loved this as soon as I popped it in. It immediately reminded me of VooDoo Glow Skulls. Good fast melodic punk / ska that really gets you movin', it's enough to make me feel like skankin' here at my lame ass job site, but hey I already scare people here enough as it is. Great lyrics about life, relationships, the music scene and questioning growing up, great music, great skankin' fun for everyone. Get this dammit, and see 'em live they're fun. Definitely one of my favorites this issue.

Bil Mcrackin - "I Am the Eggman" - CD
(Shredder Records 75 Plum Lane #3 San Rafael, CA 94901)
Bil of the McRackin's fame does his first solo project. I guess the other two guys slowed down or wanted to rest for a week or two. McRackins are one of the most prolific bands in the world and the kings of disposable pop-punk. Always fun, silly and catchy as hell. There were a few cool keyboard parts which is something new for the McRackin sound. Bil even wrote a song called "The End" which announces the appearance of the end of the album. A great hilarious song which caps off a great album.

Migraines - "Juvenilia" - CD
(Onefoot Records P.O. Box 30666 Long Beach, CA 90853)
A great Midwestern punk-pop release from a band that is really fun to see live. I don't have the whole story on these guys, but even though this release shows them as a three piece at their CD release party they were a four piece. Their singers voice takes a while to get used to, but live it doesn't sound so odd. Most of the songs are jokey and very fun, never taking themselves or the music to seriously which is great.
(OnefootUS@aol.com; Migraines@Juno.com; http://www.daisyweb.com/Migraines.htm)

Mondolux - "Sweatshop Allure" - CD
(Turd Records 254 East Siebenthaler Ave Dayton, OH 45405)
I just saw these guys the other night and was able to scam a CD off of them, suckers. Actually I really liked their live show, which I'd seen before, but this time it was better due to the guys from "Kites Above Mercury" being there to jump around with. Ok, onto the music. They rock out and sound like various hard alternative bands, but not anyone in particular. They have a few really fast hard-core songs, but most of them fall into the hard alternative / melodic punk realm. An enjoyable CD, but it just doesn't match their live show.
(Eric_Purtle@reyrey.com)

Monster Magnet - "Powertrip" - CD
(A&M Records P.O. Box 118 Hollywood, CA 90078)
The first song on this release brought to mind the MC5, the Cult and the New York Dolls, however the rest of the songs reminded me of Soundgarden. The album is good but I can't see it being much more than a replacement for the departed Soundgarden. Which will keep all those fans happy.

Sometimes I feel like
I'm the only one who feels like
Going nowhere is like
Giving up

MUSIC REVIEWS

Seven Speed Vortex - "Hard Luck Din" - CD
(Starfish Records P.O. Box 9441 Cincinnati, OH 45209)
First off this has the coolest CD package I've ever seen. It's set up like a book of matches. A really cool and original idea. Now onto the music. They have the early nineties girl fronted alternative rock sound, before it turned lame in the mid-late nineties. Sweet sounding vocals that have a bit of power behind them, plus some catchy music makes for a good CD to relax to or go on a long nowhere drive. They remind me of REM in the way that their music is powerful, but not raging or loud. The more I listen to them the more I like them a definite keeper. They would be cool to see at a show and just move around to, especially for me since I can't really dance.
(http://www.iac.net/~hubcap.html)

The Slackers - "Redlight" - CD
(Hellcat Records 2798 Sunset Blvd. LA, CA 90026)
(The Slackers 233 S. 1st St. Apt 2W Brooklyn, NY 11211)
Very well done slow traditional ska songs, with Latin rhythms thrown in to make a great release. Slow, steamy, sexy and stylish music to skank slowly to with someone special. (How many S's can Grog use in one sentence?) I can just picture a small smoky nightclub in Brooklyn, with the Slackers playing to about 30 slightly drunk, stylin' people, who are slowly swaying with each other the the infectious beat.

Slick Shoes - "Burn Out" - CD
(Tooth & ail Records P.O. Box 12698 Seattle, WA 98111-4698)
This sounds kind of like Frenzal Rhomb, except that the vocalist is lacking that cool aussie accent and the lyrics are very positive based.
(http://www.toothandnail.com)

Spring Heeled Jack - "Songs from Suburbia" - CD
(Ignition Records) (Spring Heeled Jack P.O. Box 382 Monroe, CT 06468)
These guys play fairly mellow ska with occasional bursts of power ska / punk. They are good, but not the best I've heard or the worst. A few songs really come out great and really stuck in my head, others seemed to leave from my mind right after I heard them. Good to listen to when you want some ska in the background. Look elsewhere in the zine to win an autographed poster of Spring Heeled Jack.
(http://www.springheeledjack.com; RecordsIg@aol.com; http://www.igrecords.com)

Stanford Prison Experiment - "Wrecreation" - CD
(Island Records 825 8th Ave. New York, NY 10019)
This release took me a few listens to even begin to review it. Not because it was weird, but I just couldn't think what to say about it. It's good and isn't quite punk, but it wouldn't do it justice to call it hard rock or alternative. It's like Swingin' Utters but not as punk, like Soundgarden but not as rock, like Sicko but not as happy pop-punk. A really good release that has Grog confused at the moment (maybe it means that they are original). But hey lately everything has been confusing me. In conclusion I like it and think I'll keep listening to it.

If you were a pill
I'd take a handful at my will
And knock you back
With something sweet and strong

I think I liked you better, when you just ignored me.

Thought Industry - "Recruited to do Good Deeds for the Devil" - CD
(Metal Blade Records 4025 E. Chandler Blvd. Ste. 70-D7 Phoenix, AZ 85044)
Well, this one started off with an acoustic number that made me think of stupid hippie bands. Then they went electric with a weird keyboard oriented song that was almost industrial and almost dork-rock. Mixed in were several live songs including my favorite Thought Industry song "Famous Mistake". They are an interesting band, but I can tell why some of these songs were never released before...because they suck. Thought Industry is part metal, part industrial, part straight ahead rock, part dork-rock and total Thought Industry. Always interesting and a good listen. I like it, but will program it to skip over the lame tracks.
(mtlbldrds@aol.com; http://www.iuma.com/Metal_Blade.html)

The Thumbs - "Make America Strong" - CD
(Soda Jerk Records P.O. Box 4056 Boulder, CO 80306)
Great fast melodic punk rock. I love this stuff great edgy songs that average two minutes each. Jump around and have fun, fun, fun. They remind me of Pezz, one of my all time favorite bands.
(http://www.sodajerkrecords.com)

U.S. Bombs - "War Birth" - CD
(Hellcat Records 2798 Sunset Blvd. LA, CA 90026)
Pissed off punk rock lyrics over melodic punk music. Nothing I haven't heard a million times before, but damn it's still always fun. Destroy, fight, sing, slam, run, bitch, pogo, drink and have fun.

Warrior - "Ancient Future" - CD
(Metal Blade Records 4025 E. Chandler Blvd. Ste. 70-D7 Phoenix, AZ 85044)
I think they're trying to sound like Operation Mindcrime era Queensryche in both music and lyrics. However, they fall short of Geoff and the guys which makes it even worse since the idea and the sound weren't even original. Maybe they had no intention of sounding like Queensryche, but that's how it sounds to me. This is just to annoying to listen to at the moment. Maybe I'll get back to it later...
(mtlbldrds@aol.com; http://www.iuma.com/Metal_Blade.html)

V/A - "Fearless Records Sampler" - Cassette
(Fearless Records 13772 Goldenwest St. #545 Westminster, CA 92683)
Ten Fearless bands showcase one song each on this release. All of them are great songs and they range from punk-pop to ragin' hard-core to drunk punk. A great introduction to what Fearless is all about.
(http://www.fearlessrecords.com)

V/A - "Grita! Sampler" - CD
(Grita! P.O. Box 1216 New York, NY 10156)
Grita is a label of Latino bands who run the gamut from straight ahead rock to hard-core to ska to hip hop to mellow ballad rock to salsa influenced rock. Most sing in Espanol with a few songs being bilingual. I found most of the bands to be very good and interesting. It is always great to hear other types of music especially ones that aren't sung in English. I prefer foreign bands to sing in their native tongue since some of the meaning gets lost in translation. The music conveys the deeper message anyway. Try something different, try Grita.
(info@grita.com; http://www.grita.com)

MUSIC REVIEWS

V/A - No Brakes" - CD
(Interscope Records)
Unwritten Law starts this off with a cool hard rock punk-popish song. Ozomatli then step up with a song that blends reggae, rap and latin rhythms and is smooth as silk. Next up is Wade who play a really cool punk-pop song that is just as catchy as hell. The Mighty Rev (Reverend Horton Heat, if you don't know) kicks up a great rockabilly tune as expected. Limp Bizkit rap, funk, thrashes themselves through the speakers next. Possum Dixon Don't sound a thing like how I remember them, it seems like they've been listening to a bit of NIN, but it's a great song, very different. Black Eyed Peas play some decent hip-hop which really isn't my thing. Next up is the Brian Setzer Orchestra who of course rock the swing. Les Claypool and company then take over with another bass filled twisted song from Primus. The Prissteens remind me of a calmer Hole, or actually how Hole sounds now a days. I like it dammit. Rocket from the Crypt play their usual rockin anthemetic alt rock song. Helmet does a standard noise-core song. Wrapping up the CD is a fairly disappointing band considering what else is on here. Polara play standard modern alternative rock which doesn't do much for me.
(http://www.Interscoperecords.com)

V/A - "Pawn" - Cassette
(Opulence! P.O. Box 2071 Wilmington, NC 28402-2071)
Low budget recording of some really good real college alternative rock bands which brings back the late eighties - early nineties to me. Fun music made for fun. It sounds like they're having a great time and that's what it's all about. Plus they have cool sound bites...

V/A - "Shreds Volume 5 American Underground '90-'92" - CD
(Shredder Records 75 Plum Lane #3 San Rafael, CA 94901)
I really love this CD, but hey I'm really biased since my old band (The Oxymorons!) is the first band on this comp. I will say that we're powerful energetic punk-pop. The CD also contains songs from 15 other bands who released 7"s in the early Nineties. My favs include Strawman, The Fiendz, Skeleton Ed, Fuckboyz, Sugarburn, Heel, Those Unknown, Kill Cybil, and Vibralux. Most of the bands fall under the punk-pop category, so if you're into that check it out.

V/A - "Skaliente" - CD
(Grita! P.O. Box 1216 NYC, NY 10156)
A great CD with 16 Ska tracks from 16 bands from North America, Latin America and Europe. Most of the songs are sung en Espanol which I think suits ska so well. I liked every band on the disk and their styles of ska ranged from smooth traditional ska to punked out ska. The bands included are Rancid, Allstonians, Viva Malpache!, Kampo Viejo, Inspector 7, Skunk, Los Skarnales, One Groovy Coconut, Ninos Con Bombas, Kortatu, Blind Pigs, Todos Tus Muertos, Mephiskapheles, Voodoo Glow Skulls, Hepcat and Ask Mamma. Get Skaliente and go skankin' off into the wild...
(info@grita.com; http://www.grita.com)

Is there a place for those of us who don't belong?
I haven't found it yet.

I hear the voices in my head
I swear to God that they're snoring

V/A - "Theologian Records Free Sampler 1998" - CD
(Theologian Records P.O. Box 1070 Hermosa Beach, CA 90254)
This comp starts off with War Called Peace doing typical melodic hard-core that isn't anything special, but hey I still love it. Then Homemade play more melodic hard-core, but I like their two tracks better than the previous bands. Cheater plays some tasty punk-pop the way it should be done. Then it's back to more melodic hard-core with No Fun at all. Next up is my favorite on this disc Mute 98 (see review of their CD in this issue). They play great meaningful melodic hard-core with emotion, power and soul. One of my favorite bands right now. The final two bands both play...melodic hard-core. Deviates sound pretty typical with Cigar sounding more like early Bad Religion.
(http://www.theologianrecrds.com)

SOUNDTRACKS

Burkhard Dallwitz - "The Truman Show" - CD
(Milan Records / BMG 1540 Broadway New York, NY 10036-4098)
Burkhard Dallwitz did write most of the music on this score however, Philip Glass lended his talents to a few tracks and it helps make this a really great score. Most of the songs have a dark and brooding undertone to them which matches the nature of the film. Now I just need to see the movie.
(http://www.milanrecords.com)

Trevor Jones - "Desperate Measures" - CD
(Velvel Records 740 Broadway New York, NY 10003 / BMG)
This is more of a score than a soundtrack since it is all orchestra and mood music. The music is very dramatic and I'm sure it fits in well with this film staring Michael Keaton and Andy Garcia. The songs all seem to be in the same key and fit together rather well as a whole work which I'm sure adds continuity to the film.

V/A - "The Ice Storm" - CD
(Velvel Records 740 Broadway New York, NY 10003 / BMG)
Two songs on this release are actually part of the score with the remaining songs being late 60's early 70's tunes including one by Bowie and one by Zappa. Overall I found the soundtrack to be annoying and rather dated. I'm sure it fit with the movie, which I never heard of anyway. This is definitely not my thing.

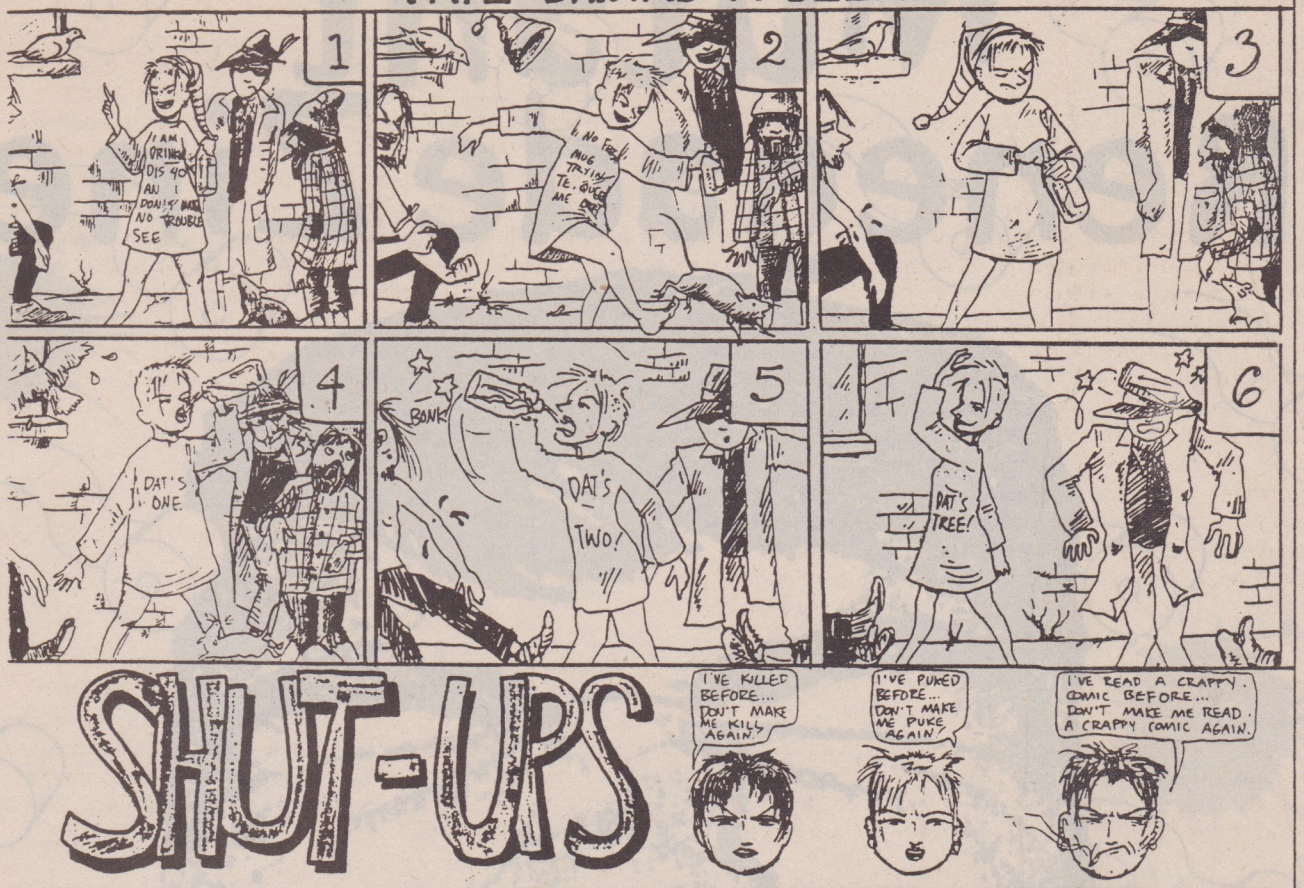
You're the sweetest thing that I ever tasted
So I'll keep waiting

Friends will turn against you
People disappoint you every time

COMFORT AND NORMALCY BREED: APATHY AND COMPLACENCY.

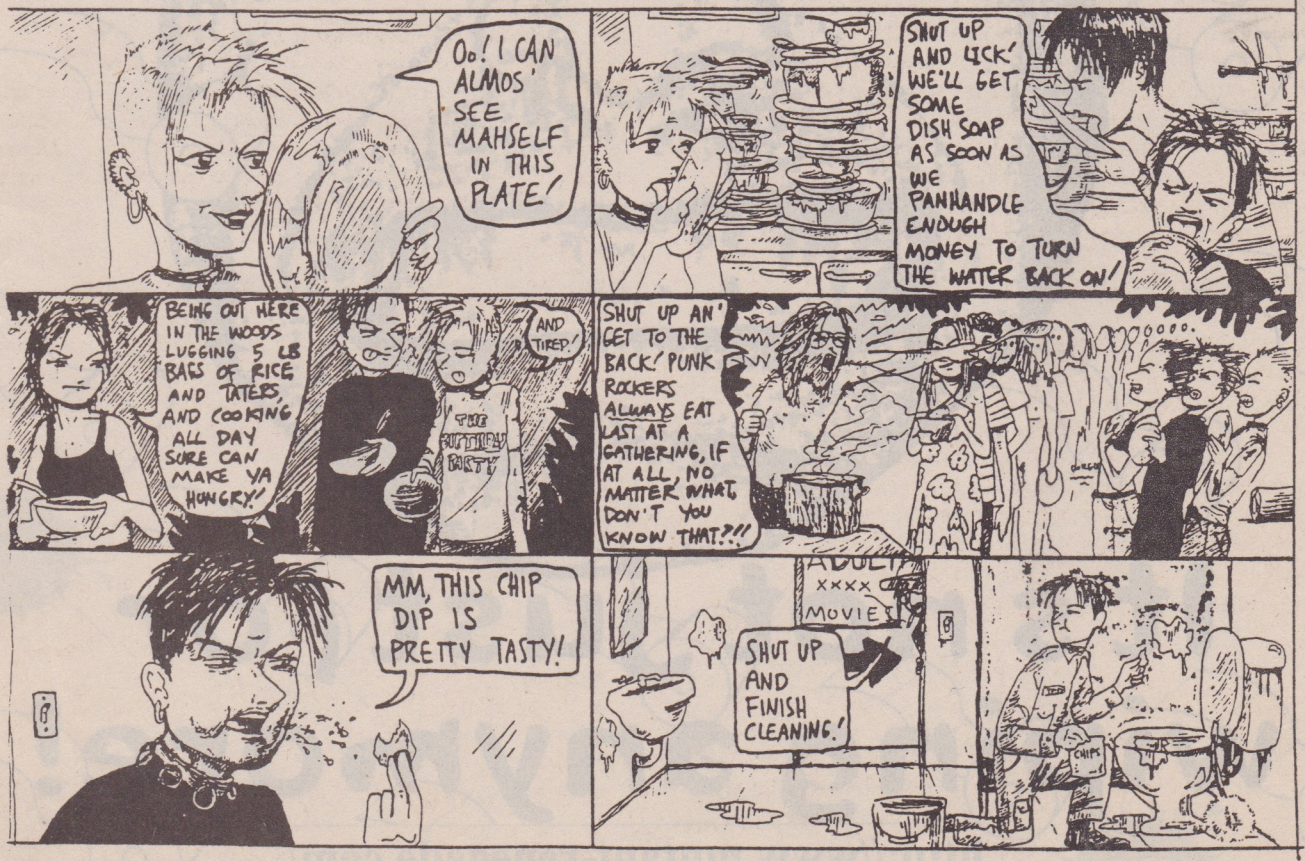
BREAK THE MOLDS AND EXPECTATIONS, KEEP LIFE INTERESTING.
NEVER STOP MOVING, TRYING AND CREATING. - GROG

FAYE DRINKS A BEER.



SHUT-UPS

I'VE KILLED BEFORE... DON'T MAKE ME KILL AGAIN.
I'VE PUKED BEFORE... DON'T MAKE ME PUKE AGAIN.
I'VE READ A CRAPPY COMIC BEFORE... DON'T MAKE ME READ A CRAPPY COMIC AGAIN.


Oo! I CAN ALMOS' SEE MAHSELF IN THIS PLATE!
SHUT UP AND LICK' WE'LL GET SOME DISH SOAP AS SOON AS WE PANHANDLE ENOUGH MONEY TO TURN THE WATER BACK ON!
BEING OUT HERE IN THE WOODS LUGGING 5 LB BAGS OF RICE AND TATERS, AND COOKING ALL DAY SURE CAN MAKE YA HUNGRY!
AND TIRED!
THE BUTTERY BASTY
SHUT UP AN' GET TO THE BACK! PUNK ROCKERS ALWAYS EAT LAST AT A GATHERING, IF AT ALL, NO MATTER WHAT, DON'T YOU KNOW THAT?!!
MM, THIS CHIP DIP IS PRETTY TASTY!
XXXX MOVIES
SHUT UP AND FINISH CLEANING!
CHIPS

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It's not just for wiping anymore!

http://www.mutant-renegade.com/